



## Patient's Bill of Rights

***These rights can be exercised on the patient's behalf by a designated surrogate or proxy decision-maker if the patient lacks decision-making capacity, is legally incompetent, or is a minor.***

The patient has the right to considerate and respectful care.

The patient has the right to and is encouraged to obtain from physicians and other direct caregivers relevant, current and understandable information concerning diagnosis, treatment and prognosis.

Patients have the right to know the identity of physicians, nurses, residents, interns, or other trainees. The patient also has the right to know the immediate and long term financial implications of treatment choices, insofar as they are known.

The patient has the right to make decisions about the plan of care prior to and during the course of treatment and to refuse a recommended treatment or plan of care to the extent permitted by law and clinic policy, and to be informed of the medical consequences of this action. In case of such refusal, the patient is entitled to other appropriate care and services that the clinic provides or transfer to another health care provider. The clinic should notify patients of any policy that might affect patient choice.

The patient has the right to have an advance directive (such as a living will, health care proxy, or durable power of attorney for health care) concerning treatment or designating a surrogate decision-maker with the expectation that the clinic will honor the intent of that directive to the extent permitted by law.

The patient has the right to every consideration of privacy. Case discussion, consultation, examination, and treatment should be conducted so as to protect each patient's privacy. The patient has the right to expect that all communications and records pertaining to his/her care will be treated as confidential by the clinic, except in cases such as suspected abuse and public health hazards when reporting is permitted or required by law. The patient has the right to expect that the clinic will emphasize the confidentiality of this information when it releases it to any other parties entitled to review information in those records.

The patient has the right to review the records pertaining to his/her medical care and to have the information explained or interpreted as necessary, except when restricted by law.