

FLORIDA PATIENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Florida Law requires that your health care provider or health care facility recognize your rights while you are receiving medical care and that you respect the health care provider's or health care facility's right to expect certain behavior on the part of the patients. All providers are required to post this summary in their offices. You may request a copy of the full text of this law from your health care provider or health care facility. A summary of your rights and responsibilities follows:

A patient has the right to be treated with courtesy and respect, with appreciation of his individual dignity, and with protection of his need for privacy.

A patient has the right to a prompt and reasonable response to questions and requests.

A patient has the right to know who is providing medical services and who is responsible for his care.

A patient has the right to know what patient support services are available, including whether an interpreter is available if he does not speak English.

A patient has the right to know what rules and regulations apply to his conduct.

A patient has the right to be given by his health care provider, information concerning diagnosis, planned course of treatment, alternatives, risks and prognosis.

A patient has the right to refuse any treatment, except as otherwise provided by law.

A patient has the right to be given, upon request, full information and necessary counseling on the availability of known financial resources for his care.

A patient who is eligible for Medicare has the right to know upon request and in advance of treatment, whether the health care provider or health care facility accepts the Medicare assignment rate.

A patient has the right to receive, upon request, prior to treatment, a reasonable estimate of charges for medical care.

A patient has the right to receive a copy of a reasonably clear and understandable, itemized bill and , upon request, to have the charges explained.

A patient has the right to impartial access to medical treatment or accommodations, regardless of race, national origin, religion, physical handicap or source of payment.

A patient has the right to treatment for any emergency medical condition that will deteriorate from failure to provide treatment.

A patient has the right to know if medical treatment is for purposes of experimental research and to give his consent or refusal to participate in such experimental research.

A patient has the right to confidential handling of medical records and, except when required by law, patients are given the opportunity to approve or refuse their release.

A patient has the right to express grievances regarding any violation of his rights, as stated in Florida law, through the grievance procedure of the health care provider or health care facility which served him and to the appropriate state licensing agency.

A patient is responsible for providing to his health care provider to the best of his knowledge , accurate and complete information about present complaints, past illnesses, hospitalizations, medications and other matters related to his health.

A patient is responsible for reporting unexpected changes in his condition to his health care provider.

A patient is responsible for reporting to his health care provider whether he comprehends a contemplated course of action and what is expected of him.

A patient is responsible for following the treatment plan recommended by his health care provider.

A patient is responsible for keeping appointments and when he is unable to do so for any reason, for notifying the health care provider or health care facility.

A patient is responsible for his actions if he refuses treatment or does not follow the health care provider's instructions.

A patient is responsible for assuring that the financial obligations of his health care are fulfilled as promptly as possible.

A patient is responsible for following health care facility rules and regulations affecting patient care and conduct.