



Research Psychiatric Center

Research Psychiatric Center Patient Rights

As a patient, you shall have a right:

1. To humane care and treatment, and to be treated with dignity as a human being.
2. To medical care and treatment in accordance with the highest accepted standards that this facility and personnel are able to provide.
3. To safe, secure and sanitary housing and a nourishing, well balanced and varied diet.
4. To attend or not attend religious services and not participate in non-therapeutic labor.
5. To request and to refuse treatment.
6. To be informed about and participate fully in making treatment care decisions and any associated conflicts.
7. To prompt and reasonable access to evaluation, care, treatment or rehabilitation.
8. To not be a subject of experimental research without you or your guardian's written and informed consent. No involuntary patient shall be subject to experimental research.
9. To practice spiritual beliefs or cultural practices as long as these do not interfere with the patient or other's treatment.
10. To, upon your consent, have your own private physician notified of the admission and to have consultation with a private physician at your own expense.
11. To pastoral counseling.
12. To be evaluated and treated in the least restrictive environment and be free from verbal and physical abuse and harassment.
13. To not be subjected to any hazardous treatment or surgical procedure unless you or your guardian consents or unless ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.
14. To have upon request an impartial review of hazardous treatments or irreversible surgical treatments prior to implementation except in emergency procedures necessary to preserve your life.
15. To an impartial review of alleged violations of your patient rights.
16. To receive visits from your attorney, physician or clergyman, private, at any reasonable time.
17. To communicate by sealed mail to the Department of Mental Health, your legal counsel and with the court, if any, which has jurisdiction over you.
18. To all legal and civil rights as a citizen unless otherwise prescribed by law.
19. To file a complaint with the State Department of Health or other certifying bodies if he or she has a concern about patient abuse, neglect, about misappropriation of a patient's property in the facility or other unresolved complaint.
20. To be informed of the identity and professional status of the staff responsible for the patient's care.
21. To be informed of your diagnosis, health status, the nature of the care, procedures and treatment prescribed, and to request or refuse treatment.
22. To be free from the use of seclusion or restraint in any form as a means of coercion, disciplinary convenience or retaliation by staff.
23. To personal privacy and confidentiality of information, including medical records.
24. To designate a decision-maker in case of the inability of understanding a proposed treatment or procedure or an inability to communicate wishes regarding care.
25. To participate in ethical decisions that may arise in the course of care including issues of conflict resolution, withholding resuscitative services, foregoing or withdrawal of life sustaining treatment, and participation in investigational studies or clinical trials.
26. To formulate and have advance directive wishes honored in accordance with the hospital's policy and procedure on advance directives.
27. To be informed of risks, benefits and side effects of all medications and treatment procedures, particularly those considered innovative or experimental.
28. To be informed of the alternative appropriate treatment procedures.
29. To refuse to participate in any research project without compromising access to other facility services.