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Know Your Rights Easy Read Guide

from Minnesota Statutes 144.651 Health Care Bill of Rights

DISCLAIMER: The following is provided by the Minnesota Department of Health for educational purposes only. This information does not replace Minnesota and Federal law related to Health Care Bill of Rights.

ALTERNATIVE FORMATS

To request alternative formats, including audio tape or Braille, please contact:

Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities
Department of Administration
370 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155
(651) 296-4018 voice
(877) 348-0505 toll free
(651) 297-7200 fax
Minnesota Relay Service: (800) 627-3529 OR 711
Email: admin.dd@state.mn.us
Or visit our website: http://mn.gov/mnddc/

1 Information about Rights

There are rights that protect you.

Staff must tell you about your rights.

Courteous Treatment

Staff must be polite to you.

Staff must treat you with respect.

3 Appropriate Health Care

You have the right to get the medical care you need.

You have the right to get the personal care you need.

4 Your Doctor

Staff will give you:

- the name of your doctor
- the address of your doctor
- the phone number of your doctor

Staff will also give this information to a person you choose to speak for you.

5 Other Health Services

You might get other health services.

Staff will give you in writing:

- the provider name
- the provider address
- a description of the service

Staff will also give this information to a person you choose to speak for you.

Staff will also give this information to your guardian.

6 Information about Treatment

Your doctor will give you information about your diagnosis and treatment.

Your doctor will help you understand what to expect.

Your family can go with you.

A person you choose to speak for you can go with you.

7 Your Treatment Plan

You can take part in your health care planning.

You can talk to staff about your medical care choices.

You can take part in meetings about your care.

Your family can take part in meetings about your care.

A person you choose to speak for you can take part in meetings about your care.

8 Continuity of Care

Your facility will try to give you the same staff.

Your facility will try to give you a schedule for your care.

9 Right to Refuse Care

If you make decisions for yourself, you can refuse:

- medical care
- medication
- food control

Staff will explain what could happen if you refuse these.

You do not have to take part in a study or experiment.

If you want to take part in a study or experiment, you must give the okay in writing.

11 Freedom from Maltreatment

You have the right to live without bullying.

You have the right to live without abuse.

12 Treatment Privacy

Staff will treat you with respect during your personal care.

You will have privacy for:

- going to the bathroom
- bathing
- personal hygiene

Staff can help you with these if you choose.

13 Your Records are Private

You have the right to say who can see information about your care.

Staff will tell you if someone asks to see your personal records.

14 Services Available

Staff will tell you of services included in what you pay for your room.

Staff will tell you of extra services you can pay for.

Staff will assist you to find out:

- What services Medicare will pay for
- What services Medical Assistance will pay for

15 Responsive Services

Staff will be quick to answer your questions.

Staff will be quick to respond to your requests.

Staff will be fair to you.

Personal Privacy

You have the right to:

- privacy
- be yourself
- your own culture
- your religion
- your mental wellness

Except in emergencies, staff will respect the privacy of your room, by:

- knocking on the door
- getting your permission before entering

17 Grievances

Staff will help you:

- understand your rights
- stand up for your rights

You have the right to speak up about:

- grievances
- policy changes
- service changes

Staff will post the grievance steps where they are easy to find.

Communication Privacy

You can choose your friends.

You can talk to people in private.

Staff will not read your personal email.

You will have access to:

- paper
- pens and pencils
- telephone

Unless you say so, staff will not tell people you are at the facility.

19 Personal Property

You can keep your clothing.

You can keep your personal things if there is enough space.

Staff will provide a locked space for your valuables.

Services for the Facility

You will not work for the facility.

You will not provide services for the facility.

You can work for the facility if:

- it is for health reasons in your medical record
- it is for goals in your medical record

21 Choice of Supplier

You can buy or rent:

- items not included in what you pay for your room
- services not included in what you pay for your room
- from a supplier of your choice
- from a supplier who makes sure these meet your medical or treatment needs

22 Your Money

You can choose to manage your money.

You can choose to have the facility manage your money.

The facility will provide a record of your money every 3 months.

23 Your Friends

As long as the privacy of other residents is not violated, you can choose:

- who you meet with
- which visitors you have
- what you buy
- your religious activities
- your political activities
- your community groups

24 Advisory Councils

COUNCIL

You and your family have the right to take part in resident advisory and family councils.

Staff must provide help and space for the meetings.

Council meetings are private:

- staff will attend only if the Council invites them
- visitors will attend only if the Council invites them

Staff will encourage councils to make recommendations about facility policies.

You have the right to access and help with:

- rights protection services
- advocacy services

To help you:

- understand your rights
- stand up for yourself
- protect your rights

You can talk in private with someone from:

- rights protection service
- advocacy services

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH