

NOTICE OF PATIENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES ON ADMISSION

PURPOSE

To assure all patients and their legal representative have been informed of their patient rights and responsibilities on admission.

POLICY

It is the policy of Highline Medical Center to recognize and respect the rights of all patients. Discrimination in any form is prohibited. Patients receiving any health care services at Highline Medical Center shall be informed of these patient rights as well as their responsibilities.

PROCEDURE

Each patient/legal representative receives a written copy of the hospital's Patient's Rights and Responsibilities. Every effort possible is made to provide this information in advance of providing or discontinuing care. The patient rights/responsibilities information may also be made available to patients throughout their stay upon request.

SIGNAGE REQUIREMENTS

Notice of Patient Rights/Responsibilities signs are posted conspicuously in the main entrance to the hospital, the emergency department entrance and at all the registration areas of the hospital or off campus service locations. The organization at their discretion may determine other locations the signs may be posted. The posted signs must meet the approved design standards and have the most current date/version published from marketing. The manager of the service is responsible for assuring the most current sign is posted during construction, renovation, painting or relocation projects. .

The hospital **grievance information sign** is conspicuously posted in the emergency department and other designated locations as determined by the organizations.

Access to Interpreter signs are also posted conspicuously in the main entrance to the hospital, the emergency department entrance and all registration areas of the organization.

RESPONSIBILITY

Patient Access/Registration staff is responsible for providing the patient/legal representative with the site specific "Patient Rights/Responsibilities – Notice and Acknowledgment" form. The patient/legal representative is asked to read, acknowledge and sign that he/she has received the information.

The Director of Patient Access or designee is responsible for keeping current procedures in the department relating to the Patient Rights/Responsibilities notices and educating staff in the implementation of the procedures. **The Patient Rights/Responsibility Notice and Acknowledgement form includes detailed information about the hospital's grievance process, contact information and time lines for resolution.** Staff must document on the acknowledgement form if the information is not provided due to the patient's condition or if the legal representative is not immediately available.

Risk Management/Patient Advocates are responsible under the hospital grievance policy for managing any complaints relating to discrimination or violations of patient rights. Risk is at point to assure signs and updated grievance information are posted at each site in Emergency Department, registration areas or other designated locations determined by the organization.

Hospital Staff are responsible for being knowledgeable of the standards and processes supporting patient rights and incorporating them into their day-to-day patient interactions.

Facilities/Construction Project Coordinator are responsible for assuring signs advising patients of their rights are posted in the main entrances of the hospital, emergency departments, registration areas and other appropriate public locations as determined by the organization. The signage is applicable to the main entrance, emergency services entrance and services/programs throughout the organization where patients are registered.

Marketing is responsible for assuring current patient rights/responsibility information posters are accurate and available and posted on the internet.

Safety/Regulatory/Risk Departments are responsible for assuring current and accurate information is disclosed on written hospital disclosures, pamphlets, and posted notices of patient rights and responsibilities.

PATIENT RIGHTS

AS A PATIENT AT HIGHLINE MEDICAL CENTER, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Be fully informed of all your patient rights and receive a written copy, in advance of furnishing or discontinuing care whenever possible.
- Not be discriminated against because of your race, beliefs, age, ethnicity, religion, culture, language, physical or mental disability, socio-economic status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression and your ability to pay for care. Be treated with dignity and respect including cultural and personal beliefs, values and preferences.
- Confidentiality, reasonable personal privacy, security, safety, spiritual or religious care accommodations, and communication. If communication restrictions are necessary for patient care and safety, the hospital must document and explain the restrictions to the patient and family.
- Be protected from neglect; exploitation; verbal, mental, physical or sexual abuse; Access to protective and advocacy services.
- Receive information about your condition including unanticipated outcomes, agree and be involved in all aspects and decisions of their care including: refusing care, treatment and services to the extent permitted by law and to be informed of the consequences of your actions; and resolving problems with care decisions; the hospital will involve the surrogate decision-maker when the patient is unable to make decisions about his or her care.
- Receive information in a manner tailored to the patient's age, language needs and ability to understand. An interpreter, translator or other auxiliary aids, tools or services will be provided to you for vital and necessary information free of charge.
- Make informed decisions regarding care including options, alternatives, risk and benefits. The hospital honors your right to give, rescind and withhold consent.
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- Receive an appropriate medical screening examination or treatment for an emergency medical condition within the capabilities of the hospital, regardless of your ability to pay for such services.
- Have a family member or representative of your choice and your physician notified.
- Know the individual(s) responsible for, as well as those providing, your care, treatment and services.
- Family or representatives notification of your admission and input in care decisions; designate any individual to be present for emotional support during course of stay.
- An appropriate assessment and management of your pain.
- Be free from restraints and seclusion of any form that are not medically necessary or are used as a means of coercion, discipline, convenience or retaliation by staff.
- Have advance directives and for hospitals to respect and follow those directives; The hospital honors advance directives, in accordance with law and regulation and the hospital's capabilities, religious directives and policies.
- End of life care; Request no resuscitation or life-sustaining treatment.
- Donate organs and other tissues including medical staff input and direction by family or surrogate decision makers.
- Review, request amendment to and obtain information on disclosures of your health information in accordance with law and regulation.
- File a grievance (complaint) and to be informed of the process to review and resolve the grievance without fear of retribution or denial of care.

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

AS A PATIENT AT OUR HOSPITAL, YOU HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO:

- Tell your care providers everything you know about your health, and to let someone know if there are changes in your condition. Provide accurate and current health information to your healthcare team.
- Make known when you have advance directives and provide documents describing your preferences and wishes to the admitting staff or clinical healthcare team.
- Ask for explanation and information if you do not understand what you are told.
- Participate in your health care by helping make decisions, following the treatment plan prescribed by your physician, and accepting responsibility for your choices.
- Demonstrate respect and consideration for other patients and hospital personnel.
- Follow hospital rules and regulations about safety and patient care during your stay such as those about visitors, smoking, noise, etc.
- Meet your financial commitments. Deal with your bill promptly, and contact the billing department if you need to make special arrangements.
- Support mutual consideration and respect by maintaining civil language and conduct in interaction with staff and medical staff.
- Tell your care providers if you have special needs your healthcare team should know about.

PATIENT VISITATION RIGHTS

Patients of Highline Medical Center enjoy visitation privileges consistent with the patient preference and subject to the hospital's Justified Clinical Restrictions. Each patient has the right to receive the visitors whom he/ she designates and may designate a support person to exercise the patient's visitation rights on his/ her behalf. All visitors designated by the patient (or support person where appropriate) shall enjoy visitation privileges that are no more restrictive than those that immediate family member would enjoy. The designation of a support person does not extend to the medical decision making.

The hospital may impose clinically necessary or reasonable restrictions or limitations on patient visitation when necessary to respect all other patient rights and to provide safe care to patients. A justified Clinical Restriction may include, but need not be limited to one or more of the following: (i) a court order limiting or restraining contact; (ii) behavior presenting a direct risk or threat to the patient, hospital staff, or others in the immediate environment; (iii) behavior disruptive of the functioning of the patient care unit; (iv) reasonable limitations on the number of visitors at any one time; (v) patient's risk of infection by the visitor; (vi) visitor's risk of infection by the patient; (vii) extraordinary protections because of a pandemic or infectious disease outbreak; (viii) substance abuse treatment protocols requiring restricted visitation; (ix) patient's need for privacy or rest; (x) need for privacy or rest by another individual in the patient's shared room; or (xi) when the patient is undergoing clinical intervention or procedure and the treating health care professional believes it is in the patient's best interest to limit visitation during the clinical intervention or procedure.

PATIENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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CROSS REFERENCE:	