

Our Patient *Bill of Rights*



Patient rights developed
by members and
participants of the Alliance for
People's Health

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We have a right to be treated with dignity and respect.

This includes a right to:

- Confidential translation
- Culturally appropriate care
- Not to be rushed when we need more time
- To speak to our care provider fully clothed and at equal eye level.

We have a right to the highest quality of medical care.

This includes a right to:

- See a care provider or seek treatment regardless of MSP coverage
- Choose our care provider or to change providers
- Be supported to fully participate in our care planning
- Be fully informed about our condition
- Have all our questions answered
- Have risks and benefits of recommended tests and treatments explained
- Know what would happen if we declined treatment
- Access necessary medications, including adequate pain medication
- Access our complete medical records and have them corrected.

We have a right to preventative health care.

This means:

- Not having to wait until there is a problem to address our health concerns
- Knowing what we can do to improve our health and quality of life in a non-judgemental manner
- Acknowledging and addressing the role that poverty, powerlessness, racism, and gender-oppression play in creating ill-health.

We have a right to advocacy within the medical system.

This means we have a right to:

- Bring an advocate or support person to every appointment
- Take written notes and copies of our medical records
- Dispute a diagnosis or treatment
- Make a complaint to Professional Colleges or health care institutions and have our complaints taken seriously.

These rights are what we expect from the health care system and from our care providers.

Yet we acknowledge that we live in a society driven by profits and plunder, and that in order to fully realize our rights we need collective struggle.

For more information on the Alliance for People's Health and to join our struggle for change:\

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