

(A) PATIENTS OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES; BILL OF RIGHTS; PUBLIC POLICY. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION TO PROMOTE THE INTERESTS AND WELL BEING OF THE PATIENTS AND RESIDENTS OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES. IT IS DECLARED TO BE THE PUBLIC POLICY OF THIS STATE THAT THE INTERESTS OF THE PATIENT BE PROTECTED BY A DECLARATION OF A PATIENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS WHICH SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

(1) EVERY PATIENT AND RESIDENT SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO CONSIDERATE AND RESPECTFUL CARE;

(2) EVERY PATIENT CAN REASONABLY EXPECT TO OBTAIN FROM HIS PHYSICIAN OR THE RESIDENT PHYSICIAN OF THE FACILITY COMPLETE AND CURRENT INFORMATION CONCERNING HIS DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT AND PROGNOSIS IN TERMS AND LANGUAGE THE PATIENT CAN REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO UNDERSTAND. IN SUCH CASES THAT IT IS NOT MEDICALLY ADVISABLE TO GIVE SUCH INFORMATION TO THE PATIENT, THE INFORMATION MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE APPROPRIATE PERSON IN HIS BEHALF;

(3) EVERY PATIENT AND RESIDENT SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW BY NAME AND SPECIALTY, IF ANY, THE PHYSICIAN RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATION OF HIS CARE;

(4) EVERY PATIENT AND RESIDENT SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO EVERY CONSIDERATION OF HIS PRIVACY AND INDIVIDUALITY AS IT RELATES TO HIS SOCIAL, RELIGIOUS, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL BEING;

(5) EVERY PATIENT AND RESIDENT SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO RESPECTFULNESS AND PRIVACY AS IT RELATES TO HIS MEDICAL CARE PROGRAM. CASE DISCUSSION, CONSULTATION, EXAMINATION, AND TREATMENT ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND SHOULD BE CONDUCTED DISCREETLY;

(6) EVERY PATIENT AND RESIDENT SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXPECT THE FACILITY TO MAKE A REASONABLE RESPONSE TO THE REQUESTS OF THE PATIENT;

(7) EVERY PATIENT AND RESIDENT SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION AS TO ANY RELATIONSHIP OF THE FACILITY TO OTHER HEALTH CARE AND RELATED INSTITUTIONS INSOFAR AS HIS CARE IS CONCERNED; AND

(8) THE PATIENT AND RESIDENT HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXPECT REASONABLE CONTINUITY OF CARE WHICH SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, WHAT APPOINTMENT TIMES AND PHYSICIANS ARE AVAILABLE.

(9) EVERY PATIENT AND RESIDENT SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE UNRESTRICTED COMMUNICATION WITH ANY PERSON OR PERSONS OF HIS CHOICE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO