

Pacific Water Therapy

A Patient's Bill of Rights

1. The patient has the right to considerate and respectful care.
2. The patient has the right to obtain from his health care provider complete current information concerning his diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis in terms the patient can reasonably expect to understand. When it is not medically possible to give such information to the patient, the information should be made available to an appropriate person in his behalf. He has the right to know, by name, the health care provider responsible for coordinating his care.
3. The patient has the right to receive from his health care provider information necessary to give informed consent prior to the start of any procedure and/or treatment. Except in emergencies, such information for informed consent should include but not necessarily be limited to the specific procedure and/or treatment, the medically significant risks involved, and the probable duration of incapacitation. Where medically significant alternatives for care or treatment exist, or when the patient requests information concerning medical alternatives, the patient has the right to such information. The patient has the right to know the name of the person responsible for the procedures and/or treatment.
4. The patient has the right to refuse treatment to the extent permitted by law, and to be informed of the medical consequences of his action.
5. The patient has the right to create advanced directives, such as a living will.
6. The patient has the right to every consideration of his privacy concerning his own medical care program. Case discussion, consultation, examination, and treatment are confidential and should be conducted discreetly. Those not directly involved in his care must have the permission of the patient to be present.
7. The patient has the right to expect that all communication and records pertaining to his care should be treated as confidential.
8. The patient has the right to expect that within its capacity a hospital must make reasonable response to the request of the patient for services. The hospital must provide evaluation, service, and/or referral as indicated by the urgency of the case. When medically permissible a patient may be transferred to another facility only after he has received complete information and explanation concerning the needs for and alternatives to such a transfer. The institution to which the patient is to be transferred must first have accepted the patient for transfer.
9. The patient has the right to obtain information as to any relationship of his hospital to other health care and education institutions insofar as his care is concerned. The patient has the right to obtain information as to the existence of any professional relationships among individuals, by name, which are treating him.
10. The patient has the right to be advised if the hospital or health care provider proposes to engage in or perform human experimentation affecting his care or treatment. The patient has the right to refuse to participate in such research projects.
11. The patient has the right to expect reasonable continuity of care. He has the right to know in advance what appointment times and physicians and other health care providers are available and where. The patient has the right to expect that the hospital or health care provider will provide a mechanism whereby he is informed of his continuing health care requirement following discharge.
12. The patient has the right to examine and receive an explanation of his bill regardless of source of payment.
13. The patient has the right to know what rules and regulations apply to his conduct as a patient.