



Your Hospital Stay

Patient's Rights and Responsibilities at Mid Coast Hospital

As you become a patient at Mid Coast Hospital, it is our duty to remind you that your healthcare is a combined effort between you as a patient, your doctor and nurse, and other hospital staff.

The following is a list of rights you can expect as a patient.

1. Right to be cared for regardless of your age, color, mental or physical disabilities, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, sex, or ability to pay.
2. Right to be respected at all times.
3. Right to privacy and confidentiality.
4. Right to personal safety.
5. Right to know the identity of your caregivers.
6. Right to have all ethical issues addressed in providing care.
7. Right to pastoral care and other spiritual services.
8. Right to have Informed Consent obtained.
9. Right to being informed and the right to receive such information in terms that you can understand.
10. Right to an interpreter when English is not your primary language.
11. Right to ongoing evaluation of therapeutic effectiveness.
12. Right to be involved in all aspects of your care and to be part of the decisions affecting your care.
13. Right to be involved in resolving dilemmas about care decisions.
14. Right to have family participate in care decisions.
15. Right to ask for and get a second opinion regarding your health condition and plan of care.
16. Right to have your Advance Directives addressed and your wishes regarding withholding care honored.
17. Right to refuse treatment as permitted by law and to be told of the medical consequences of such refusal.
18. Right to be transferred to another hospital if and when you feel you would be better cared for elsewhere.
19. Right to have a means to resolve complaints.
20. Right to a full explanation to you and your family of any restrictions on communication, and restrictions are determined with your participation.



Your Hospital Stay

21. Right to talk with people outside of the hospital.
22. Right to participate in teaching programs available at the hospital, or the right to ask for information on where to obtain teaching programs when not available at Mid Coast Hospital.
23. Right to be told of any further healthcare requirements following discharge from the hospital.
24. Right to access to protective services.
25. Rights of the Patient with Pain:
 - a. Right to information about pain and pain relief measures.
 - b. Right to a concerned staff committed to pain prevention.
 - c. Right to health professionals who respond quickly to reports of pain.
 - d. Right to state-of-the-art pain management.
 - e. Right to dedicated pain relief specialists.
 - f. Right to have pain expressions believed.
26. Rights of the Dying Patient:
 - a. Right to be comforted by medication for pain and suffering.
 - b. Right to be treated as desired by you, or any other designated decision maker (i.e., legal guardian, family member).
 - c. Right to express any spiritual and emotional concerns you might have about dying and the chance to express your grief.

The following is a list of responsibilities that we can expect of you as a patient at Mid Coast Hospital:

1. We need you to give us, to the best of your abilities, information about your present sickness, pain, past illnesses, medication(s), and other matters pertaining to your care.
2. We need you to report to us any symptoms indicating a change in your health.
3. We need you to follow the plan of care recommended by your doctor, nurses, and other hospital staff.
4. We need you to accept responsibility for your own actions should you decide to refuse treatment and/or not follow your doctor's advice.
5. We need you to follow Mid Coast Hospital's rules which affect all patients' care and comfort.

Patients rights and responsibilities as described here are applicable to minors (patients 18 years or younger) and their parents or legal guardian(s). Also, it is important to note that Mid Coast Hospital's Patient's Bill of Rights and Responsibilities policy contains more information than is listed here. If you would like a copy of the policy, notify your nurse.

Mid Coast Hospital has developed a process to handle patient complaints that center on the violation of your rights as a patient. This process is described in a document entitled "Resolution of Patient/Family Complaints," which is in your Admission Packet. This process can be activated at any time by any patient or family member, when there is question that the rights of the patient have been violated.