

# The Charter of Patients Rights

- **Right to Information**  
Patients are entitled to clear information about their health status, proposed treatments, potential risks, and alternatives.
- **Right to Records and Reports**  
Patients can access their medical records and reports within 24 hours of admission or 72 hours post-discharge.
- **Right to Emergency Medical Care**  
In emergencies, patients have the right to immediate, lifesaving treatment without prior payment, as upheld by Article 21 of the Constitution.
- **Right to Informed Consent**  
Before any invasive procedure, patients should receive comprehensive information to provide informed consent.
- **Right to Confidentiality, Human Dignity, and Privacy**  
Patient information is confidential, with disclosures only permitted by consent or legal requirement.
- **Right to Second Opinion**  
Patients can seek opinions from other healthcare professionals, and hospitals should facilitate this process.
- **Right to Transparency in Rates and Care**  
Hospitals must inform patients about service costs in advance and adhere to standard treatment guidelines.
- **Right to Non-Discrimination**  
Healthcare services must be provided without discrimination based on gender, race, religion, caste, or other factors.
- **Right to Safety and Quality Care**  
Patients are entitled to safe, quality care following established standards and protocols.
- **Right to Choose Alternative Treatment**  
Patients can opt for alternative treatments and must be informed about them.
- **Right to Choose Source for Medicines or Tests**  
Patients can select their pharmacy or diagnostic center, provided they meet the required standards.
- **Right to Proper Referral and Transfer**  
Transfers must be medically justified, with full patient information and consent.
- **Right to Protection in Clinical Trials**  
Patients in research are entitled to protection, including informed consent and ethical treatment.
- **Right to Protection in Biomedical Research**  
Similar to clinical trials, participants in biomedical research have rights to ethical treatment and informed consent.
- **Right to Take Discharge or Receive a Deceased Body**  
Patients can discharge themselves against medical advice, and hospitals must release bodies to the next of kin.
- **Right to Patient Education**  
Patients should receive education on health needs, preventive care, and treatment plans.
- **Right to Be Heard and Seek Redressal**  
Patients can voice grievances through established mechanisms, and hospitals must address complaints promptly.

