



SCA Health observes and respects a patient's rights and responsibilities without regard to age, race, color, sex, gender identity, national origin, religion, culture, physical or mental disability, personal values or belief systems.

### You have the right to:

- Considerate, respectful and dignified care and respect for personal values, beliefs and preferences.
- Access to treatment without regard to race, ethnicity, national origin, color, creed/religion, sex, gender identity, age, mental disability, or physical disability. Any treatment determinations based on a person's physical status or diagnosis will be made on the basis of medical evidence and treatment capability.
- Respect of personal privacy.
- Receive care in a safe and secure environment.
- Exercise your rights without being subjected to discrimination or reprisal.
- Know the identity of persons providing care, treatment or services and, upon request, be informed of the credentials of healthcare providers and, if applicable, the lack of malpractice coverage.
- Expect the facility to disclose, when applicable, physician financial interests or ownership in the facility.
- Receive assistance when requesting a change in primary or specialty physicians, dentists or anesthesia providers if other qualified physicians, dentists or anesthesia providers are available.
- Receive information about health status, diagnosis, the expected prognosis and expected outcomes of care, in terms that can be understood, before a treatment or a procedure is performed.
- Receive information about unanticipated outcomes of care.
- Receive information from the physician about any proposed treatment or procedure as needed in order to give or withhold informed consent.
- Participate in decisions about the care, treatment or services planned and to refuse care, treatment or services, in accordance with law and regulation.
- Be informed, or when appropriate, your representative be informed (as allowed under state law) of your rights in advance of furnishing or discontinuing patient care whenever possible.
- Receive information in a manner tailored to your level of understanding, including provision of interpretative assistance or assistive devices.
- Have family be involved in care, treatment, or services decisions to the extent permitted by you or your surrogate decision maker, in accordance with laws and regulations.
- Appropriate assessment and management of pain, information about pain, pain relief measures and participation in pain management decisions.
- Give or withhold informed consent to produce or use recordings, film, or other images for purposes other than care, and to request cessation of production of the recordings, films or other images at any time.
- Be informed of and permit or refuse any human experimentation or other research/educational projects affecting care or treatment.
- Confidentiality of all information pertaining to care and stay in the facility, including medical records and, except as required by law, the right to approve or refuse the release of your medical records.
- Access to and/or copies of your medical records within a reasonable time frame and the ability to request amendments to your medical records.
- Obtain information on disclosures of health information within a reasonable time frame.
- Have an advance directive, such as a living will or durable power of attorney for healthcare, and be informed as to the facility's policy regarding advance directives/living will. Expect the facility to provide the state's official advance directive form if requested and where applicable.
- Obtain information concerning fees for services rendered and the facility's payment policies.
- Be free from restraints of any form that are not medically necessary or are used as a means of coercion, discipline, convenience or retaliation by staff.
- Be free from all forms of abuse or harassment.

- Access to language assistance service, free of charge, by a qualified interpreter for individuals with limited English proficiency or individuals with a disability.
- Expect the facility to establish a process for prompt resolution of patients' grievances and to inform each patient whom to contact to file a grievance. Grievances/complaints and suggestions regarding treatment or care that is (or fails to be) furnished may be expressed at any time. Grievances may be lodged with the state agency directly using the contact information provided below.

**If a patient is adjudged incompetent under applicable State laws by a court of proper jurisdiction, the rights of the patient will be exercised by the person appointed under State law to act on the patient's behalf.**

**If a state court has not adjudged a patient incompetent, any legal representative or surrogate designated by the patient in accordance with State law may exercise the patient's rights to the extent allowed by State law.**

### You are responsible for:

- Being considerate of other patients and personnel and for assisting in the control of noise, smoking and other distractions.
- Respecting the property of others and the facility.
- Identifying any patient safety concerns.
- Observing prescribed rules of the facility during your stay and treatment.
- Providing a responsible adult to transport you home from the facility and remain with you for 24 hours if required by your provider.
- Reporting whether you clearly understand the planned course of treatment and what is expected of you and asking questions when you do not understand your care, treatment, or service or what you are expected to do.
- Keeping appointments and, when unable to do so for any reason, notifying the facility and physician.
- Providing caregivers with the most accurate and complete information regarding present complaints, past illnesses and hospitalizations, medications—including over-the-counter products and dietary supplements, and any allergies or sensitivities, unexpected changes in your condition or any other patient health matters.
- Promptly fulfilling your financial obligations to the facility, including charges not covered by insurance.
- Payment to facility for copies of the medical records you may request.
- Informing your providers about any living will, medical power of attorney, or other advance directive that could affect your care.

**You may contact the following entities to express any concerns, complaints or grievances you may have:**

<b>FACILITY</b>	Pat Graham Administrator
<b>STATE AGENCY</b>	New York Department of Health New Rochelle Office 145 Huguenot Street, 6th Floor New Rochelle, NY 10801-5291 (914) 654-7007 1-800-663-6114
<b>MEDICARE</b>	Office of the Medicare Beneficiary Ombudsman; <a href="https://www.cms.gov/center/special-topics/ombudsman/medicare-beneficiary-ombudsman-home.html">https://www.cms.gov/center/special-topics/ombudsman/medicare-beneficiary-ombudsman-home.html</a> Medicare Help and Support: 1-800-MEDICARE
<b>OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS</b>	US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Civil Rights 200 Independence Avenue SW, Room 509F, HHH Building Washington D.C. 20201 (800) 368-1019; (800) 537-7697 JTDD) Internet address: <a href="https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/filing-a-complaint/index.html">https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/filing-a-complaint/index.html</a>
<b>ACCREDITING ENTITY</b>	AAAH (Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care) 3 Parkway North, Suite 201 Deerfield, IL 60015 (847) 853-6060 <a href="http://www.aaahc.org">www.aaahc.org</a>

To care for our patients, serve our physicians, and improve healthcare in America

# Patients' Bill of Rights for Diagnostic & Treatment Centers (Clinics)

**As a patient in a Clinic in New York State, you have the right, consistent with law, to:**

- (1) Receive service(s) without regard to age, race, color, sexual orientation, religion, marital status, sex, gender identity, national origin or sponsor;
- (2) Be treated with consideration, respect and dignity including privacy in treatment;
- (3) Be informed of the services available at the center;
- (4) Be informed of the provisions for off-hour emergency coverage;
- (5) Be informed of and receive an estimate of the charges for services, view a list of the health plans and the hospitals that the center participates with; eligibility for third-party reimbursements and, when applicable, the availability of free or reduced cost care;
- (6) Receive an itemized copy of his/her account statement, upon request;
- (7) Obtain from his/her health care practitioner, or the health care practitioner's delegate, complete and current information concerning his/her diagnosis, treatment and prognosis in terms the patient can be reasonably expected to understand;
- (8) Receive from his/her physician information necessary to give informed consent prior to the start of any nonemergency procedure or treatment or both. An informed consent shall include, as a minimum, the provision of information concerning the specific procedure or treatment or both, the reasonably foreseeable risks involved, and alternatives for care or treatment, if any, as a reasonable medical practitioner under similar circumstances would disclose in a manner permitting the patient to make a knowledgeable decision;
- (9) Refuse treatment to the extent permitted by law and to be fully informed of the medical consequences of his/her action;
- (10) Refuse to participate in experimental research;
- (11) Voice grievances and recommend changes in policies and services to the center's staff, the operator and the New York State Department of Health without fear of reprisal;
- (12) Express complaints about the care and services provided and to have the center investigate such complaints. The center is responsible for providing the patient or his/her designee with a written response within 30 days if requested by the patient indicating the findings of the investigation. The center is also responsible for notifying the patient or his/her designee that if the patient is not satisfied by the center response, the patient may complain to the New York State Department of Health;
- (13) Privacy and confidentiality of all information and records pertaining to the patient's treatment;
- (14) Approve or refuse the release or disclosure of the contents of his/her medical record to any health-care practitioner and/or health-care facility except as required by law or third-party payment contract;
- (15) Access to his/her medical record per Section 18 of the Public Health Law, and Subpart 50-3. For additional information link to: [http://www.health.ny.gov/publications/1449/section\\_1.htm#access](http://www.health.ny.gov/publications/1449/section_1.htm#access);
- (16) Authorize those family members and other adults who will be given priority to visit consistent with your ability to receive visitors;
- (17) When applicable, make known your wishes in regard to anatomical gifts. Persons sixteen years of age or older may document their consent to donate their organs, eyes and/or tissues, upon their death, by enrolling in the NYS Donate Life Registry or by documenting their authorization for organ and/or tissue donation in writing in a number of ways (such as health care proxy, will, donor card, or other signed paper). The health care proxy is available from the center;
- (18) View a list of the health plans and the hospitals that the center participates with; and
- (19) Receive an estimate of the amount that you will be billed after services are rendered.



**Department  
of Health**

Patients' Rights, 10NYCRR, Section 751.9