

Rights and responsibilities of patients

This document is a summary of the [Charter of Patient Rights and Responsibilities](#), based on respect for freedom, autonomy, equality and dignity of persons, civic engagement, and on access to information and knowledge related to health.

The patient has the right to:

1. **Equitable healthcare**, without discrimination, that protects vulnerability and offers respectful treatment.
2. Receive **health education** to protect their health, access **preventive activities** with proven effectiveness, and decide to waive preventive measures, as long as it does not endanger others.
3. Access **public healthcare services** in a timely manner based on clinical criteria, receive information about treatment and wait times, choose primary care centers and **primary care** professionals, identify the professionals providing them with services, and access a second opinion in cases of significant importance.
4. Privacy and **confidentiality**, confidentiality of information, and ideological and religious freedom.
5. **Choose and decide** on diagnostic or therapeutic procedures with dignity and autonomy, have consent requested before recording or disseminating images, plan advance directives, draft the corresponding document, have it taken into account, and experience the end-of-life process with dignity.
6. Have access to their own **health information** in a complete and secure manner, use information technologies to securely access the healthcare system, and receive guidance on available information on the internet.
7. **Receive quality healthcare** that ensures continuity of care and clinical and personal safety, receive appropriate available treatment, know the prescribed medications, have access to their own biological samples, and know the level of quality of healthcare centers.
8. **Genetic information** confidentiality, benefit from new genetic techniques and receive information on the findings obtained in genetic tests.
9. Participate in **research projects** safely, confidentially and with dignity, not be excluded from them, receive information, provide prior consent, and know the research results.
10. Express their opinion and actively **participate** in the healthcare system.

The patient has the duty to:

1. **Respect** and not discriminate against healthcare professionals or other patients.
2. **Contribute to the care** and improvement of the environment, take care of their own health and the health of those under their care, avoid health risks to others, and use preventive measures responsibly.
3. **Responsibly use** healthcare services and facilities, and adhere to scheduling and facility rules where they receive care.
4. Respect and maintain the **privacy and confidentiality** of others, as well as their ideological and religious freedom.
5. **Be co-responsible** for the care process. **Legal representatives** of third parties must agree on the decisions. Respect the indication for **medical discharge**.
6. **Provide truthful information** and responsibly use new technologies within the healthcare system.
7. **Facilitate the updating of the medical history** and the review of treatment, **use healthcare services correctly**, and identify themselves with the required documentation in order to guarantee their own safety.
8. Fulfill the **responsibilities previously accepted** in a research project.
9. Be informed about the healthcare system and **participate in it responsibly**.