

PEDIATRIC BILL OF RIGHTS

In addition to the rights of adult patients, the needs of children/adolescents and they, with their parents/guardians, shall have the following rights:

- A. Respect for:
 - Each child and adolescent as a unique individual
 - The care-taking role and individual response of the parent
- B. Provision for normal physical and physiological needs of a growing child to include nutrition, rest, sleep, warmth, activity and freedom to move and explore.
- C. Consistent, supportive and nurturing care which:
 - Meets the emotional and psychosocial needs of the child
 - Fosters open communication
- D. Provision for self-esteem needs which will be met by attempts to give the child:
 - The reassuring presence of a caring person, especially a parent;
 - Freedom to express feelings or fears with appropriate reactions;
 - As much control as possible, over both self and situation;
 - Opportunities to work through experience before and after they occur, verbally, in play or in other appropriate ways;
 - Recognition and reward for coping well during difficult situations.
- E. Provision for varied and normal stimuli of life which contributes to cognitive, social, emotional and physical developmental needs:
 - Play, educational and social activities essential to all children and adolescents.
- F. Information about what to expect prior to, during and following procedure/experience and support in coping with it.
- G. Participation of children/families in decisions affecting their own medical treatment.
- H. Minimization of stay duration by recognizing discharge planning needs.

FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY:

Parents/family* shall have the responsibility for:

- A. Continuing their parenting role to the extent of their ability
- B. Being available to participate in decision-making and providing staff with knowledge of parents/family whereabouts

The family consists of those individuals responsible for physical and emotional care of the child on a continuous basis, regardless of whether they are related