

PLASTIC SURGERY CENTER OF ST. JOSEPH, INC.
THE PATIENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS

This office presents a Patient's Bill of Rights with the expectation that observance of these rights will contribute to more effective patient care and greater satisfaction for the patient, his physician and the group organization. It is recognized that a personal relationship between the physician and the patient is essential for the provision of proper medical care. The traditional physician-patient relationship takes on a new dimension when care is rendered within an organizational structure. Legal precedent has established that the facility itself also has a responsibility to the patient. It is recognition of these factors that these rights are affirmed.

1. The patient has the right to considerate and respectful care.
2. The patient has the right to obtain from his physician complete current information concerning his diagnosis, treatment and prognosis in terms the patient can be reasonably expected to understand. When it is not medically advisable to give such information to the patient, the information should be made available to an appropriate person in his behalf. He has the right to know, by name, the physician responsible for coordinating his care.
3. The patient has the right to receive from his physician information necessary to give informed consent prior to the start of any procedure and/or treatment. Except in emergencies, such information for informed consent should include, but not necessarily be limited to the specific procedure and/or treatment, the medically significant risks involved, and the probably duration of incapacitation. Where medically significant alternatives for care or treatment exist, or when the patient requests information concerning medical alternatives for care or treatment, or when the patient requests information concerning medical alternatives, the patient has the right to know the name of the person responsible for the procedures and/or treatment.
4. The patient has the right to refuse treatment to the extent permitted by law and to be informed of the medical consequences of his action.
5. The patient has the right to every consideration of his privacy concerning his own medical care program. Case discussion, consultation, examination, and treatment are confidential and should be conducted discreetly. Those not directly involved in his care must have the permission of the patient to be present.
6. The patient has the right to expect that all communications and records pertaining to his care should be treated confidentially.
7. The patient has the right to expect that within his capacity, Dr. Michael De Priest must provide evaluation, service, and/or referral as indicated by the urgency of the case. When medically permissible, a patient may be transferred to another facility only after he has received complete information and explanation concerning the needs for any alternatives to such a transfer. The institution to which the patient is to be transferred must first have accepted the patient for transfer.

8. The patient has the right to express any concerns about his care and safety to the Administrator of the facility. The patient also has the right to express concerns and/or obtain information as to any relationship of this facility to other health care and educational institutions (i.e. The Joint Commission, One Renaissance Blvd., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181 (800)994-6610 and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, PO Box 570, Jefferson City, MO 65102 (573)751-6400) insofar as his care is concerned. The patient has the right to obtain information as to the existence of any professional relationships among individuals, by name, who is treating him.
9. The patient has the right to be advised if the office of Dr. De Priest proposes to engage in or perform human experimentation affecting his care or treatment. The patient has the right to refuse to participate in such research projects.
10. The patient has the right to expect reasonable continuity of care. He has the right to know in advance what appointment times and physicians are available and where. The patient has the right to expect that this facility will provide a mechanism whereby he is informed by his physician, or a delegate of the physician, the patient's continuing health care requirements following discharge.
11. The patient has the right to examine and receive an explanation of his bill regardless of source of payment.
12. The patient has the right to know how our facility's rules and regulations apply to his conduct as a patient.

No catalog of rights can guarantee for the patient the kind of treatment he has a right to expect. This facility has many functions to perform, including the prevention and treatment of disease, the education of both health professionals and patients, and the conduct of clinical research. All these activities must be conducted with an overriding concern for the patient, and, above all, the recognition of his dignity as a human being. Success in achieving this recognition assures success in the defense of the rights of the patient.

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the patient's responsibility to fully participate in decisions involving his/her own health care and to accept the consequences of these decisions if complications occur.

The patient is expected to follow-up on his/her doctor's instructions, take medication when prescribed, and ask questions concerning his/her own health care that he/she feels are necessary.