

# LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER POLICY

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Subject: <b>PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	Original Issue Date: 7/11/75	Policy # <b>202</b>
	Supersedes: 10/30/20	Effective Date: 2/8//24
Policy Owner(s): Chair Ethics Committee Executive Sponsor(s): Chief Medical Officer		
Departments Consulted: Ethics, Rights, and Responsibilities Committee Nursing Services Fetus/Infant/Child Ethics Committee	Reviewed & approved by: Attending Staff Association Executive Committee Senior Executive Officer	Approved by:  Chief Medical Officer
		Chief Executive Officer

## PURPOSE

To ensure that patients, visitors, employees, and volunteers are informed as to which facility rules and policies apply to the patient's conduct while under treatment.

## POLICY

Los Angeles General Medical Center shall inform all patients receiving treatment of their rights and responsibilities. Upon registration or admission, patients are to be given a written statement of their rights and responsibilities, which shall be available in English and Spanish. The patient or patient's legal representative will be asked to sign the statement, which shall be placed into, and become a part of, the patient's health/medical record. A copy of the signed statement shall be given to the patient or the patient's legal representative.

## PROCEDURE

### Patient Responsibilities

- Provide as accurate and complete information as possible about present complaints, past illnesses, hospitalizations, medications, and other matters relating to his or her health.
- Report unexpected changes in his or her condition to the doctor or health care team member.
- Inform the doctor or health care team member when a proposed treatment plan or what is expected of him or her is not understood. Cooperate with the agreed-upon treatment plan recommended by the doctor or health care team member and follow the instructions.
- Keep appointments and, when unable to do so for any reason, notify the responsible practitioner or the facility (hospital/clinic).
- Accept the consequences of any refusal of treatment after he or she has thoroughly discussed the treatment plan with the doctor and has understood the possible consequences of refusal.
- Provide financial information as necessary to qualify for health care benefits and fulfill financial obligations not covered by insurance.

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- Request health information and/or education as needed.
- Be considerate and respectful of the rights of other patients, families, and staff, and assist in the control of noise, smoking, and the number of visitors.
- Understand that after the patient has left the facility either by discharge order or against medical advice (AMA), his or her return to the facility shall be considered a new admission/visit.
- Be respectful of the property of other persons and of the facility.

**RESPONSIBILITY**

Administration  
All Employees

**PROCEDURE DOCUMENTATION**

Attending Staff Manual  
Nursing Services and Education Policy Manual  
Departmental Policy and Procedure Manuals

**REFERENCES**

California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Section 70707 (15)  
DHS Policy #322, Patients' Bill of Rights  
Joint Commission Standards (Ethics, Rights, and Responsibilities)  
Los Angeles General Medical Center Policy 720, Patient Discharge

**REVISION DATES**

April 1, 1995; October 20, 1998; April 9, 2002; April 19, 2005; September 23, 2008;  
December 29, 2014; October 30, 2020; February 8, 2024