Patient Responsibilities

As a patient or health care consumer in Ontario, you have both rights and responsibilities when it comes to your health. It is important to note, your responsibilities are not described or enforced in any law.

Your Responsibilities

You have an important role to play in your own health to ensure the best possible outcome. Your responsibilities as a patient are to:

- Choose an appropriate health care provider (family doctor or nurse practitioner).
- Use health care resources responsibly.
- Keep an accurate history of your personal medical information.
- Participate in health care decision and do not be afraid to ask questions if you need more information *or* if you need the information repeated.
- Follow instructions for medications and other treatments, ask for a list of medications
 if needed.
- Report your concerns about health care professional to regulatory organizations. You can do this through the internal complaint process or go straight to the College of Nurses or College of Physicians and Surgeons.
- Respect the rights of others seeking health care.
- Make healthy choices about your lifestyle and habits.

** You are entitled to all the patient rights that are described in Ontario laws, even if you do not follow these responsibilities. **

For more information please visit:

https://settlement.org/ontario/health/patients-rights-and-responsibilites/rights-and-responsibilites-of-patients/whatare-my-responsibilites-as-a-patient/

To make a complaint or report a nurse or doctor:

College of Nurses:

https://www.cno.org/en/protect-public/making-a-complaint-public/

College of Physicians and Surgeons: https://www.cpso.on.ca/Public/Services/Complaints

For assistance or guidance please contact: Sara-Jane Hunter RN, BScN. Patient Advocate



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