

Sec. 27-102(d)-140. Veteran rights

(a) The basic rights of human beings for independence of expression, decision making, and action, and concern for personal dignity and human relationships shall not be compromised for veterans admitted to the Home, except where necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of other patients, staff, and visitors.

(b) In providing care, the Department has the right to expect behavior on the part of veterans, their relatives and friends, which, considering the nature of the request for admission and their illness, if any, is reasonable and responsible.

(c) The Department affirms the veteran's right to make decisions regarding the extent of his medical care treatment and daily living activities, including the decision to discontinue, withdraw, or reject treatment to the extent of the law.

(d) Each veteran entering a service, activity, or program shall receive and sign for a copy of the Veteran Handbook, which shall include but may not be limited to the following:

(1) The veteran shall be accorded impartial access to treatment or accommodations that shall be available or medically indicated, regardless of race, creed, sex, national origin, or religion, as outlined under eligibility requirements for admission.

(2) The veteran has the right to considerate, respectful care at all times and under all circumstances with recognition of his personal dignity.

(3) The veteran has the right to personal informational privacy as outlined in the Veteran Handbook.

(4) The veteran has the right to expect reasonable safety from physical harm.

(5) The veteran has the right to know the identity and professional status of individuals providing service to him/her and to know which physician or other practitioner is primarily responsible for his care.

(6) The veteran has the right to obtain from the practitioner responsible for coordinating his care, complete and current information concerning his diagnosis, treatment, and any known prognosis. This information shall be communicated to the veteran or legal representative (when appropriate) in terms in which the veteran can reasonably be expected to understand.

(7) The veteran has the right to expect confidentiality regarding his diagnosis and medical care except to the extent authorized by law.

(8) The veteran has the right to access people outside the Health Care Facility by means of visitors, and by verbal and written communication.

(9) The veteran has the right to be reasonably informed and participate in decisions involving his health care. The veteran should not be subjected to any procedure without his voluntary, competent, and informed consent, or that of his legally authorized representative.

(10) The veteran has the right to consult a specialist at his own expense.

(11) The veteran may refuse treatment to the extent permitted by law.

(e) In the event of a complaint by a veteran, family, or legal representative, the complaint shall be in writing to the Director of the Residential Facility or Health Care Facility Administrator for a written response.

(Effective January 19, 1996; Amended October 11, 2007)