

Minnesota Home Care Bill of Rights

A person who receives home care services has these rights:

1. The right to receive written information about rights in advance of receiving care or during the initial evaluation visit before the initiation of treatment, including what to do if rights are violated.
2. The right to receive care and services according to a suitable and up-to-date plan and subject to accepted medical or nursing standards, to take an active part in creating and changing the plan and evaluating care and services.
3. The right to be told in advance of receiving care about the services that will be provided, the disciplines that will furnish care, the frequency of visits proposed to be furnished, other choices that are available, and the consequences of these choices, including the consequences of refusing these services.
4. The right to be told in advance, of any changes in the plan of care and to take an active part in any changes; and
5. The right to refuse services or treatment.
6. The right to know, in advance, any limits to the services available from a provider, and the provider's grounds for a termination of services.
7. The right to know, in advance of receiving care whether the services are covered by health insurance, medical assistance, or other health programs, the charges for services that will not be covered by Medicare, and the charges that the individual may have to pay.
8. The right to know what the charges are for services, no matter who will be paying the bill.
9. The right to be treated as an individual.
10. The right to be treated as a resident of the community.
11. The right to be treated as a citizen of the state.
12. The right to be allowed access to records and written information from records in accordance with section 144.335.
13. The right to be served by people who are properly trained and competent to perform their duties.
14. The right to be treated with courtesy and respect, and to have the patient's property treated with respect.
15. The right to be free from physical and verbal abuse.
16. The right to reasonable, advance notice of changes in services or charges, including at least 10 day's advance notice of the termination of a service by a provider, except in cases where:
 - (i) The recipient of services engages in conduct that alters the conditions of employment as specified in the employment contract between the home care provider and the individual providing home care services, or creates an abusive or unsafe work environment for the individual providing home care services; or
 - (ii) An emergency for the informal caregiver or a significant change in the recipient's condition has resulted in service needs that exceed the current service provider agreement and that cannot be safely met by the home care provider.
17. The right to a coordinated transfer when there will be a change in the provider of services.
18. The right to voice grievances regarding treatment or care that is, or fails to be, furnished, or regarding the lack of courtesy or respect to the patient or the patient's

9. The right to know that there may be other services available in the community, including other home care services and providers, and to know where to go for information about these services.

10. The right to choose freely among available providers and to change providers after services have begun, within limits of health insurance, medical assistance, or other health programs.

11. The right to have personal, financial, and medical information kept private, and to be advised of the provider's policies and procedures regarding disclosure of such information.

property.

19. The right to know how to contact an individual associated with the provider who is responsible for handling problems and to have the provider investigate and attempt to resolve the grievance or complaint.

20. The right to know the name and address of the state or county agency to contact for additional information or assistance.

21. The right to assert these rights personally, or have them asserted by the patient's family or guardian when the patient has been judged incompetent, without retaliation.

If you have a complaint about the agency or person providing your home care services, you may call, write or visit the Office of Health Facility complaints, MN Department of Health. You may also contact the ombudsman for Long Term Care.

Office of Health Facility Complaints
(651) 201-4201
1-800- 369-7994
Fax: (651) 281-9796
Mailing Address:
Minnesota Department of Health
Office of Health Facility Complaints
85 East Seventh Place, Suite 300
P.O. Box 64970
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0970

Ombudsman for Long-Term Care
(651) 431-2555
1-800-657-3591
Fax: (651) 431-7452
Mailing Address:
Home Care Ombudsman
Ombudsman for Long-Term Care
PO Box 64971
St. Paul, MN 55164-0971

You May Also Contact Access North Center for Independent Living of Northeastern MN
<http://accessnorth.net> kim@accessnorth.net
2104 E. 6th Ave. Hibbing, MN 55746 (218) 262-6675 (V/TTY) FAX (218) 262-6677
Name/Title of Person to Whom Problems or
Complaints May be Directed: Roberta Cich, Executive Director