

Medical Patient Rights of Women (Pregnancy and Childbirth)

Every woman has the following rights with regard to pregnancy and childbirth:

- receive health care before, during, and after pregnancy and childbirth
- receive care for her and her infant that is consistent with generally accepted medical standards
- choose a certified nurse midwife or physician as her maternity care professional
- choose her birth setting from the full range of birthing options available in her community
- leave her maternity care professional and select another if she becomes dissatisfied with her care
- receive information about the names of those health care professionals involved in her care
- privacy and confidentiality of records
- receive information concerning her condition and proposed treatment
- accept or refuse any treatment
- be informed if her caregivers wish to enroll her or her infant in a research study
- access her medical records
- receive information in a language in which she can communicate
- receive emotional and physical support during labor and birth
- freedom of movement during labor and to give birth in the position of her choice
- contact with her newborn
- receive information about breastfeeding
- decide collaboratively with caregivers when she and her baby will leave the birth site for home
- be treated with respect at all times before, during, and after pregnancy by her health care professionals
- examine and receive a reasonable explanation of her total bill for services

Medical Patient Rights Act, Public Act 101-0445

For more information, visit <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/health-care-regulation/facilities/hospitals>.

