

DC Assisted Living Resident Rights

Right to a Dignified Existence

- Be treated with consideration, respect, and dignity, recognizing each resident's individuality.
- Freedom from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and misappropriation of property.
- Freedom from physical or chemical restraints.
- Quality of life is maintained or improved.
- Exercise rights without interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal.
- A homelike environment, and use of personal belongings when possible.
- Equal access to quality care.
- Security of possessions.

Right to Self-Determination

- Choice of activities, schedules, health care, and providers, including attending physician.
- Reasonable accommodation of needs and preferences.
- Participate in developing and implementing a person-centered plan of care that incorporates personal and cultural preferences.
- Choice about designating a representative to exercise his or her rights.
- Organize and participate in resident and family groups.
- Request, refuse, and/or discontinue treatment.

Right to be Fully Informed of

- The type of care to be provided, and risks and benefits of proposed treatments.
- Changes to the plan of care, or in medical or health status.
- Rules and regulations, including a written copy of residents' rights.
- Contact information for the long-term care ombudsman program and the state survey agency.
- State survey reports and the nursing facility's plan of correction.
- Written notice before a change in room or roommate.
- Notices and information in a language or manner he or she understands (Spanish, Braille, etc.).

Right to Raise Grievances

- Present grievances without discrimination or retaliation, or the fear of it.
- Prompt efforts by the facility to resolve grievances, and provide a written decision upon request.
- To file a complaint with the long-term care ombudsman program or the state survey agency.

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Right of Access to

- Individuals, services, community members, and activities inside and outside the facility.
- Visitors of his or her choosing, at any time, and the right to refuse visitors.
- Personal and medical records.
- His or her personal physician and representatives from the state survey agency and long-term care ombudsman program.
- Assistance if sensory impairments exist.
- Participate in social, religious, and community activities.

Rights Regarding Financial Affairs

- Manage his or her financial affairs.
- Information about available services and the charges for each service.
- Personal funds of more than \$100 (\$50 for residents whose care is funded by Medicaid) deposited by the facility in a separate interest-bearing account, and financial statements quarterly or upon request.
- Not be charged for services covered by Medicaid or Medicare.

Right to Privacy

- Regarding personal, financial, and medical affairs.
- Private and unrestricted communication with any person of their choice.
- During treatment and care of personal needs.

Rights During Discharge/Transfer

- Right to appeal the proposed transfer or discharge and not be discharged while an appeal is pending.
- Receive 30-day written notice of discharge or transfer that includes: the reason; the effective date; the location going to; appeal rights and process for filing an appeal; and the name and contact information for the long-term care ombudsman.
- Preparation and orientation to ensure safe and orderly transfer or discharge.
- Notice of the right to return to the facility after hospitalization or therapeutic leave.

GET HELP

For more information about Residents' Rights, or questions or concerns, contact your Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program promotes and protects the rights of residents in licensed long-term care facilities. Visit theconsumervoice.org for more information.

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