



1213 Garfield Avenue Harlan, Iowa 51537 (712) 755-5161

# **Patient's Rights and Responsibilities**

## **Patient Visitation Rights**

## MISSION STATEMENT

Myrtue Medical Center will be a responsive health care leader by providing the highest quality of care for our patients while improving the well-being and health of the communities we serve.

## VISION STATEMENT

Myrtue Medical Center will be recognized as a leader in patient experience and community health.

## PURPOSE OF MYRTUE MEDICAL CENTER

Myrtue Medical Center provides high-quality, cost-effective health care services to improve the well-being of the people it serves.

## VALUES OF MYRTUE MEDICAL CENTER

- ✓ Integrity: Truthful, honest, adherence to a moral code
- ✓ Service: Place the needs of others above our own
- ✓ Partnership: Seek others who match our commitment
- ✓ Stewardship: Use our resources wisely
- ✓ Safety: Provide an environment free of accidental injury

## LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

Myrtue Medical Center welcomes your comments about our facilities and the services you receive. Satisfaction with your visit is of great importance to us. Whether you have compliments or concerns, we want to hear from you.

There are several ways to do this:

1. Go to our website at [myrtuemedical.org](http://myrtuemedical.org). Click on the “Contact Us” button in the upper-right hand corner.
2. Any of our staff members are available to assist you or inform the appropriate person in addressing your concern.
3. You can request to speak to the Nurse Manager for immediate assistance in resolving your concern.
4. Administrative representatives are available should you feel you need further assistance. You can call or write to:

**Myrtue Medical Center**  
**1213 Garfield Avenue**  
**Harlan, Iowa 51537**  
**ATTN: Administrator**  
**(712) 755-4316**

Myrtue Medical Center complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and Iowa civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion or in any other manner prohibited by law.

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-712-755-4308 (TTY: 1-800-735-2943).

注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。

請致電 1-712-755-4308 (TTY: 1-800-735-2943)。

## Patient Visitation Rights

The patient (or support person, where appropriate) has the right, subject to his or her consent, to receive the visitors whom he/she designates, including, but not limited to, a spouse, a domestic partner (including a same-sex domestic partner), another family member, or a friend. The patient (or support person) has the right to withdraw or deny such consent at any time.

The patient (or support person) is informed of his/her rights and responsibilities in advance of furnishing patient care whenever possible.

If the patient is unable to receive those rights at the time of admission, his/her support person may receive them on behalf of the patient.

Myrtue Medical Center will not restrict, limit, or otherwise deny visitation privileges on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability unless their medical provider determines that this will hinder treatment.

Visitors exposed to or with infectious diseases will be restricted. Infectious diseases include: chickenpox, impetigo, productive cough, runny nose, diarrhea, vomiting, sore throat, cold sore or fever blister, rubella, mumps, measles, etc.

All designated by the patient (or support person) will enjoy full and equal visitation privileges consistent with patient preference.

For optimal healing recommended visiting hours 8:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.

*Reference: State Operations Manual Appendix W 485.635 (f)*

## PATIENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### ***Patient Informational Rights:***

1. **Access to Care:** Patients shall be accorded impartial access to services or accommodations that are available and medically indicated, regardless of race, creed, sex, age, national origin, disability, source of payment for care, diagnosis, sexual orientation, or communication barriers.
2. **Respect and Dignity:** Patients have the right to considerate, respectful care at all times and under all circumstances, with the recognition of personal dignity. Since we have a strong commitment to respect the religious beliefs of all patients, we will address any concerns regarding care decisions. In all appropriate settings, pastoral counseling will be offered. Patients shall be free from mental, chemical, physical abuse. Chemical and physical restraints are used to protect the patient from injury to self or others only as authorized by their medical provider. The patient shall be assured of reasonable safety within the hospital. The individual dignity and privacy of each patient will be respected. Personal mail sent and received by the patient is unopened. The patient will have reasonable access to a telephone for confidential calls.
3. **Privacy and Confidentiality:** Patients have the right, within the law, to personal and informational privacy, including the right to:
  - Refuse to talk with or see anyone not directly involved in care;
  - Wear appropriate personal clothing, religious or other symbolic items, as long as they do not interfere with medical procedures or treatment;
  - Be interviewed and examined in surroundings designed to assure reasonable privacy;

- Have the medical record read only by individuals directly involved in treatment or the monitoring of its quality, and by others only with written authorization by the patient or a legally authorized representative;
- Compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws regarding confidentiality of medical records and patient information;
- Be moved if another patient or visitor is unreasonably disturbing;
- Be placed in protective privacy when considered necessary for personal safety; and
- Communicate privately with persons of their own choice and participate in activities of social and religious groups at their own discretion. If married, they will be assured of privacy for visits with their spouse, includes same sex domestic partner.

4. Personal Safety: Patients have a right to expect reasonable safety in the hospital/clinic practices or other health care settings; to be free from mental, physical, verbal, psychological, sexual, and emotional abuse or harassment or unnecessary restraints or seclusion; and to have access to protective services.

5. Identity/Participation: Patients will have the right to choose and know the identity of the medical practitioner primarily responsible for the patient's care and the identity and professional status of those providing care. The facility will assist the patient in finding an alternate medical practitioner when requested to do so. The patient will have the right to participate in the development and implementation of his or her care plan.

6. Consent: Patients have the right to reasonably informed participation in decisions involving their health care, including information regarding organ-tissue donation procedures. Appropriate consent must be obtained for all treatments and for

expected to manage his/her own financial affairs.

When the patient is not capable of understanding these rights, or when the patient is a minor child, all applicable patient rights and responsibilities passes to the next of kin, guardian, or authorized responsible person by law.

***Patient Responsibilities:***

1. Provision of Information: Patients have the responsibility to provide, to the best of their knowledge, accurate and complete information about their present complaints, prior illnesses, hospitalizations, medications, changes in condition, and other matters relating to their health.
2. Compliance with Instructions: Patients are responsible for complying with applicable hospital/clinic rules and regulations, for following the treatment plan recommended by their approved and licensed independent practitioner, and for cooperating with health personnel as they carry out the coordinated plan of care ordered. Patients are also responsible for keeping appointments and notifying the practitioner, hospital, or clinic when unable to do so. Patients are responsible to make it known if they do not understand what they have been given in education, instruction, or communication.
3. Refusal of Treatment: Patients are responsible for providing copies of their living will or other advance directives to their health care practitioners. Patients are responsible for their actions if they refuse treatment or refuse to follow the practitioner's instructions.
4. Health Care Charges: Patients are responsible for assuring that the financial obligations of their health care are fulfilled as promptly as possible.
5. Respect and Consideration: Patients are responsible for being considerate of the rights of other patients and hospital/clinic personnel, and for assisting in the control of noise and the number of hospital visitors. Patients are also expected to respect the property of others and of the hospital/clinic.
6. Personal Property: Patients are responsible for any property/valuables kept in their possession. The patient or guardian is

their voluntary participation in research programs. Patients and/or their legally-authorized representatives will be informed by the physician about the risks, benefits, and alternatives to procedures, as well as those considered experimental.

7. Information: Patients and their family, if appropriate, have the right to obtain complete and current information concerning diagnosis and treatment from the attending physician and to participate in care decisions. The patient shall be informed regarding the risks and benefits of the treatment and the available alternatives. When it is not advisable or possible to give such information to the patient, the information will be made available to the patient's legal representative. Clinical decisions will be based upon identified health care needs and shall not be compromised in response to financial considerations. The grievance process may be utilized to address any issues of denial of care. Any marketing materials provided will accurately reflect the services available and the current level of licensure and accreditation. Patients have the right to have their own physician promptly notified of their admission. Patients have the right to have a family member or representative of their choice promptly notified of their admission. The patient has the right to access information contained in their clinical records within a reasonable time frame. The hospital shall seek to meet requests for medical record information as quickly as the record keeping system permits within federal guidelines. Records shall be supplied at a cost not to exceed the community standard.
8. Communication: Patients have the right of access to people outside the hospital/clinic by means of personal visit, oral and written communication, unless their physician determines that this will hinder treatment. Patients have the right, subject to their consent, to receive the visitors whom they designate including, but not limited to, a spouse (an individual legally married to another, including same sex), a domestic partner (including a same-sex domestic partner), another family member, or a friend. Patients

have the right to withdraw or deny such consent at any time. Right to be fully informed in a language that he/she can understand when the hospital/clinic determines that qualified interpreters and/or communication equipment are necessary for effective communication, it will be provided at no charge to the patient.

9. Consultation: Patients have the right to consult with a specialist at their request and at their own expense.
10. Refusal of Treatment: Patients may refuse, consent to, or limit treatment to the extent permitted by law. When refusal of treatment prevents the provision of appropriate care in accordance with ethical and professional standards, the relationship with the patient may be terminated upon reasonable notice. Myrtue Medical Center will address conflicts that may arise among patients, families, hospital/clinic staff and physicians concerning care decisions, including the withholding or withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment. No hospital/clinic will discriminate against a patient based upon the patient's decision to execute a living will or other advance directive to withhold care. Patients shall have the right to complete an advance directive or designate a representative to make health care decisions.
11. Transfer and Continuity of Care: Patients will not be transferred to another facility without a complete explanation of the need for transfer, the risks and alternatives to transfer, and the acceptance of the patient by the other facility. Patients have the right to be informed by the responsible health care provider of any continuing health requirements following discharge from a hospital/ clinic/ service.
12. Billing Practices: Patients will be billed only for services provided. Patients have the right to request and receive an itemized explanation of the entire bill, regardless of the source of payment. Patients also have the right to timely notice prior to termination of

eligibility for reimbursement for the cost of care by any third party payer.

13. Hospital/Clinic Rules/Regulations/Grievance Procedure: Patients have access to the hospital/clinic rules and regulations. Myrtue Medical Center has an established mechanism for patients and family to express their concerns. Patients receiving any clinical service can ask an administrative representative for assistance in communicating with appropriate administrative staff to resolve their concerns. Patients receiving any service can ask for assistance in this process by asking for the nursing supervisor. Patients can contact the State Ombudsman at 1-800-532-3213 or The Compliance Team at 215-654-9110 or [www.thecomplianceteam.org](http://www.thecomplianceteam.org)