PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The provision of patient care services is the result of a mutual effort and the participation of the patient, family members or significant others is indispensable. Along with the patient rights, the patient, family member or significant other also assumes the following responsibilities:

- to provide accurate and complete information regarding health matters, including all changes that happen during the course of treatment;
- to provide the organization with accurate information such that appropriate determinations may be made regarding services, fees, and whether or not the patient is covered by a health insurance plan;
- to follow the treatment plan as established by the care provider in conjunction with the patient;
- to assume responsibility for his/her actions in the event that the patient does not follow the established plan of care;
- to notify the organization 24 hours in advance for a medical appointment and 48 hours in advance for a mental health appointment that must be canceled;
- to assure that his/her financial obligations resulting from services provided by the organization are fulfilled as promptly as possible;
- to ask your doctor or nurse what to expect regarding pain and pain management, discuss pain relief options with your doctors and nurses, work with your doctor and nurse to develop a pain management plan, ask for pain relief when pain first begins, and help your doctor and nurse assess your pain;
- to show respect and consideration for the staff, property, and other patients and visitors of Fenway Health.

RIGHTS OF MAMMOGRAPHY PATIENTS

Every mammography patient at Fenway Health shall:

- be treated with dignity and respect;
- be informed, at the time of scheduling their appointment, that they should either arrange for their most recent prior mammogram (original film) to be sent to the facility before the appointment, or bring it to the facility at the time of the appointment;
- not be denied service or otherwise discriminated against solely because the patient is self-referred and without a referring physician;
- be provided with an opportunity, upon request, to discuss any radiation safety concerns with the responsible physician and/or the mammography radiologic technologist before undergoing a mammography examination;
- be informed, upon request, of the proposed or actual glandular dose of radiation;
- receive, directly or through their referring physician, a written statement describing the test results and, if results suggest other than routine mammographic follow-up, the next steps for the patient to pursue promptly after undergoing a mammogram at the facility;
- be informed of their right to discuss the results of the mammogram with the responsible or interpreting physician or the patient’s referring physician;
- be entitled to inspect and copy their patient medical record, upon request, during normal business hours at the facility;
- be entitled, upon request, to receive an loan the original mammogram or a copy of the original mammogram, for a reasonable copying fee; and,
- be provided with the name, address and telephone number of the Radiation Control Program at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health as the agency to which complaints can be made.
Fenway Health respects the rights of the patient and recognizes each patient as an individual with unique health needs. The organization also respects each patient’s personal dignity and provides considerate and respectful care based upon the patient’s individual needs. The following information summarizes patient’s rights in accordance with Chapter 111, Section 70E of Massachusetts General Law, describes patient responsibilities, and provides instruction on what to do if you have concerns regarding your care.

**Patient Rights**

**EVERY PATIENT SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT:**

- to receive medical care that meets the highest standards of Fenway Health, regardless of his/her race, religion, national origin, any disability or handicap, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, military service, or the source of payment for his/her care;
- upon request, to obtain from the facility in charge of his care the name and specialty, if any, of the physician or other person responsible for his care or the coordination of his care;
- to the confidentiality of all records and communications to the extent provided by law;
- to have all reasonable request responded to promptly and adequately within the capacity of the facility;
- upon request, to obtain an explanation as to the relationship, if any, of the facility to any other health center, facility or educational institution insofar as said relationship relates to his/her care or treatment;
- to receive any rules or regulations which apply to conduct as a patient;
- to, upon request, receive any information that the facility has available relative to financial assistance and free health care;
- upon request, to request and receive a copy of an itemized bill or other statement of charges submitted to any third party by Fenway for your care and to have a copy of the itemized bill sent to the attending physician of record;
- if refused treatment because of economic status or the lack of a source of payment, to prompt and safe transfer to a facility which agrees to receive and treat such patient. Said facility refusing to treat such patient shall be responsible for: ascertaining that the patient may be safely transferred; contacting a facility willing to treat such patient; arranging the transportation; accompanying the patient with necessary and appropriate professional staff to assist in the safety and comfort of the transfer, assure that the receiving facility assumes the necessary care promptly, and provide pertinent medical information about the patient’s condition; and maintaining records of the foregoing;
- upon request, to provide pertinent medical information about the patient’s condition; and maintaining records of the foregoing;
- to informed consent to the extent provided by law;
- upon request, to receive an itemized bill including third party reimbursements paid toward said bill, regardless of the sources of payment.

in the case of a patient suffering from any form of breast cancer, to complete information on all alternative treatments which are medically viable;

- to have cultural, psychosocial, spiritual, and personal values, beliefs and preferences respected;
- to have access to no cost interpreters;
- to be involved in all aspects of care, and to have family, or when appropriate, the patient’s legally appointed guardian or health care agent, participate in care decisions;
- to be involved in resolving conflicts about care decisions, treatment or services.