

Standards of Care Support Resources

To ensure respectful and transparent communication with patients, medical facilities and professionals should uniformly engage patients in setting their most effective course of treatment, appropriately accommodating the unique needs and capacity of the patient and honoring the following practices. The following resources provide background information regarding the principal standards of care presented by the North Dakota Disabilities Advocacy Consortium.

A. Ascertain Each Individual Patient's Disability Status and Honor Any Program Service Plan.

Health Care Person-Centered Profile, National Center on Advancing Person-Centered Practices and Systems, April 2020: https://ncapps.acl.gov/covid-19-resources.html

Civil Rights, HIPAA, and the Coronavirus Disease, 2019, HHS Office of Civil Rights, March 2020: https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ocr-bulletin-3-28-20.pdf

OCR Safeguards Rights of Persons with Disabilities to Have Reasonable Access to Support Persons in Hospital Settings During COVID-19: https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/06/09/ocr-resolves-complaints-after-state-connecticut-private-hospital-safeguard-rights-persons.html

Safeguard Against Disability Discrimination During COVID-19, April 2020: https://www.ucucedd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Center-for-Dignity-in-Health-Care-fact-sheet-on-rights-for-people-with-disabilities.pdf

Hospital Visitation Rights, AADMD, April 2020: https://www.aadmd.org/visitation-rights

Person-Centered Planning and Practice, National Quality Forum, April 2020: https://mcusercontent.com/abe97fa7a35fb4137a263a13a/files/0bfc57e1-dcf4-4506-86e1-33f3aca0e88e/pcp final draft report for comment.pdf

B. Respect and Address Individual Behavioral Health Needs.

Peer, Friend, and Self Support in the COVID-19 Crisis, Mental Health America, April 2020: https://mhanational.org/sites/default/files/PeerFriendSelfSupport March2020.pdf

COVID-19 Resource and Information Guide, National Alliance on Mental Illness, June 2020: https://www.nami.org/getattachment/Press-Media/Press-Releases/2020/COVID-19-and-Mental-Illness-NAMI-Releases-Importan/COVID-19-Updated-Guide-1.pdf?lang=en-US Mental Health and COVID-19 – Information and Resources, Mental Health America: https://mhanational.org/covid19#MentalHealthInformationForDiseaseOutbreaks

C. Clarify Potential Rationing of Medical Care.

Safeguard Against Disability Discrimination During COVID-19, April 2020: https://www.ucucedd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Center-for-Dignity-in-Health-Care-fact-sheet-on-rights-for-people-with-disabilities.pdf

OCR Resolves Civils Rights Complaint Against Pennsylvania After it Revises its Pandemic Health Care Triaging Policies to Protect Against Disability Discrimination, April 2020:

https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/16/ocr-resolves-civil-rights-complaint-against-pennsylvania-after-it-revises-its-pandemic-health-care.html

Health Care Rationing, What Patients with Disabilities Need to Know During the COVID-19 Pandemic: https://www.disabilityrightspa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2-MEDICAL-RATIONING-.pdf

Applying HHS's Guidance for States and Health Care Providers on Avoiding Disability-Based Discrimination in Treatment Rationing, Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, April 2020: https://dredf.org/avoiding-disability-based-discrimination-in-treatment-rationing/