



APRIL: PATIENT'S MONTH

April is Patient Day, so it's a good time to recognize our rights. Respect for and protection of the rights of patients are fundamental to ensuring quality health services. Knowing these rights not only seeks to ensure that appropriate care is provided, but also that the dignity, autonomy and privacy of each individual are respected. It also ensures that patients are treated with the respect and dignity they deserve. Enables them to demand appropriate care, actively participate in decisions related to their health and protect their well-being.

Something that seems basic but is important to highlight, is the right to high quality health services as well as the right to obtain information from your file, including your test results; among others.

It is essential that all health professionals respect these rights, helping to create an environment of trust and safety for patients. Also, patients who are aware of these rights can be more active in their care decisions.

Just knowing and asserting the rights of the patient is all we contribute to a health system that is fair, accessible and humane. It is important that we all ensure a positive experience in the health system. Education about these rights strengthens the relationship between patients and health professionals, creating an environment of trust, respect and care.

Finally, going to the Office of the Patient's Advocate for guidance or filing complaints to resolve situations about their health services is an option that is available to guarantee their rights. For more information and to view the patient's bill of rights, please visit the official website of the Office of the Attorney for Patients of the Government of Puerto Rico: <https://www.opp.pr.gov/>.