



# CHARTER OF RIGHTS FOR HOSPITALIZED CHILDREN

- 1.** Children should only be admitted to hospital if the care they require cannot be provided equally well at home or in day care.
- 2.** Children in hospital always have the right to have their parents or a representative with them.
- 3.** All parents should be allowed to stay with their child in hospital and should be encouraged to do so.
- 4.** This should not entail financial hardship for parents, who should not suffer loss of earnings.
- 5.** The active participation of parents should be encouraged so that they can be involved as much as possible in the care of their child.
- 6.** Children and parents have the right to be informed in a manner appropriate to their age and level of understanding.
- 7.** Measures should be taken to alleviate physical and emotional shock. Parents have the right to informed participation in all decisions concerning the care of their children.
- 8.** Every child shall be protected from unnecessary medical treatment and research. Children shall be treated together with children of similar developmental interests and shall not be admitted to adult wards.
- 9.** Children shall have all the conditions for play, rest, and education appropriate to their age and condition, and shall be provided with a purposefully designed and stimulating environment organized in accordance with their needs.
- 10.** Children should be cared for by staff whose education and experience enable them to respond to the physical, emotional, and developmental needs of children and their families.
- 11.** Continuity of care should be ensured by a team of caregivers.
- 12.** Children should be treated with tact and understanding, and their privacy should be respected.

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The Charter of Rights of Hospitalized Children was approved at the First European Conference on Hospitalized Children in May 1988. Patient rights are integrated into the Internal Patient Safety Assessment System at Penta Hospitals SK.