

# Right of Hospitalized Patients to Receive Treatment from Their Own Doctors

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_:

Section 1. HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS AUTHORIZED TO BE TREATED BY OWN PHYSICIAN.

Subdivision 1. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them.

- (a) Authorized to treat” includes, but is not limited to, the authority of licensed physicians and other licensed health care practitioners to write orders, prescribe medication and other treatments, order consultations, and discharge the patient.
- (b) “Current relationship” is defined as a period of the last five years in which the patient has been treated by or communicated with the licensed physician or other licensed health care practitioner.
- (c) “Hospital privileges” – the authority given by hospitals to licensed physicians and other licensed health care practitioners to admit and treat hospitalized patients.
- (d) “Disciplinary action” means any action taken by a health-related licensing board against a licensee, including but not limited to revocation, limitation, suspension, or denial of a license or any other disciplinary action taken by a health-related licensing board against the licensee for unprofessional conduct.

Subd. 2. General Provision.

- (a) Patients have a right to be admitted to a hospital and treated during hospitalization by the licensed physician or other licensed health care practitioner with whom they have a current relationship.
- (b) At the request of a hospitalized patient, or if the patient is unable to make the request, at the request of the spouse of the patient, a parent of the patient, the patient’s guardian, or the patient’s power of attorney, a licensed physician or other licensed health care practitioner with whom the patient has a current relationship is authorized to treat the patient.
- (c) A physician licensed by this state may not face disciplinary action solely for treating a patient with whom they have a current relationship in a hospital where they do not have hospital privileges.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

<https://physiciansthive.com/hospital-credentialing/>  
<http://www.allianceforpatientsafety.org/hensleigh-daily-journal.php>