## A Nurses Touch Residential Care



## Resident's Bill of Rights

Residents' rights are part of the federal Nursing Home Reform Law enacted in 1987 in the Social Security Act. The law requires nursing homes to "promote and protect the rights of each resident" and places a strong emphasis on individual dignity and self-determination.

The Nursing Home Reform Act established the following rights for nursing home residents:

- The right to live in a caring environment free from abuse, mistreatment and neglect
- The right to live without the fear of enduring physical restraint
- The right to privacy
- The right to receive personal care that accommodates physical, medical, emotional, and social needs
- The right to a social contact/interaction with fellow residents and family members
- The right to be treated with dignity
- The right to exercise self-determination
- The right to exercise freedom of speech and communicate freely
- The right to participate in the creation and review of one's individualized service plan
- The right to be fully informed in advance of any changes to the service plan or status of the nursing home
- The right to voice grievances without discrimination or reprisal

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## Provider's Bill of Rights

Each assisted living facility must post a Providers' bill of rights in a prominent place in the facility. The providers' bill of rights must provide that a provider of assisted living services has the right to:

- Be shown consideration and respect that recognizes the dignity and individuality of the provider and assisted living facility;
- Terminate a resident's contract for just cause after a written 30-day notice;
- Terminate a contract immediately, after notice to the department, if the provider finds that a resident creates a serious or immediate threat to the health, safety, or welfare of other residents of the assisted living facility. During evening hours and on weekends or holidays, notice to \_\_\_\_\_\_must be made to 1-XXX-XXX-XXXX;
- Present grievances, file complaints, or provide information to state agencies or other persons without the threat of reprisal or retaliation;
- Refuse to perform services for the resident or the resident's family other than those contracted for by the resident and the provider;
- Contract with the community to achieve the highest level of independence, autonomy, interaction, and services to residents;
- Access patient information concerning a client referred to the facility, which must remain confidential as provided by law;
- Refuse a person referred to the facility if the referral is inappropriate;
- Maintain an environment free of weapons and drugs; and
- Be made aware of a resident's problems, including self-abuse, violent behavior, alcoholism, or drug abuse.