

Sharp Behavioral Health Services — Patients' Rights

Each person voluntarily admitted or involuntarily detained for evaluation or treatment shall have the following rights:

- To wear his or her own clothes; to keep and use personal possessions including toilet articles; and to keep and spend a reasonable sum of his or her own money for canteen expenses and small purchases.
- To have access to individual storage space for private use.
- To see visitors each day.
- To have reasonable access to telephones, both to make and receive confidential calls; or to have such calls made for one.
- To have ready access to letter-writing materials, including stamps, and to mail and receive unopened correspondence.
- To refuse shock treatment and any form of convulsive therapy.
- To refuse psychosurgery.
- To see and receive the services of a patient advocate who has no direct or indirect clinical or administrative responsibility for the person. If you think you have been denied any of the rights above without a good reason, contact the Patients' Rights Advocate at: Patient Advocacy Program, University of San Diego, CA 92110, 619-260-7660 or 1-800-479-2233.
- Other rights are specified by regulation.

[Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5325]

No person may be presumed incompetent because he or she has been evaluated or treated for a mental disorder or chronic alcoholism, regardless of whether the treatment was voluntarily or involuntarily received.