

## **Charter of Rights of Hospitalised Children**

1. Children should be admitted to a hospital only if the care required cannot be equally well provided to them at home or during the day hospitalisation.
2. Hospitalised children have always the right to be accompanied by their parents or their guardian.
3. An accommodation should be provided to all parents and the parents should be encouraged to accept it.
4. For parents, this should not be a financial burden and they should not suffer a loss of earnings.
5. In order for parents to participate in their child's care, their active participation should be encouraged.
6. Children and parents have the right to be informed in a manner appropriate to their age and the level of comprehension.
7. Measures should be taken to alleviate physical and emotional shock. Parents have the right to participate in all decisions concerning the care of their children.
8. Every child should be protected from unnecessary treatment and research. Children should be treated with children with the same developmental interests and not be admitted to adult departments.
9. Children should have all the conditions to play and relax, to be educated in the appropriate manner to their age and condition and to be in an environment with the practical and stimulating furniture set up in accordance with their needs.
10. Children should be cared for by staff whose education and experience predetermine them to respond to the physical, emotional and developmental demands of children and their families.
11. Continuity of care should be ensured by the child care team.
12. Children should be treated in tactful manner and with the understanding, and their privacy should be respected.

The Charter of Rights of Hospitalised Children was approved at the 1st European Conference on Inpatient Children in May 1988.

