



Great Lakes Center for Autism Treatment and Research PATIENTS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

For the purpose of this document, the term “patient” refers to children, youth, and young adults served by Great Lakes Center for Autism Treatment and Research (GLC) outpatient program. It is understood that minor children will have parents, legal guardians, and representatives and that these individuals will be assisting the child with exercising his/her rights and responsibilities.

Further, it is understood that many of GLC patients will also be clients of the Michigan Mental Health system. These rights and responsibilities identified here are in addition to those offered by Chapter 7 of the Michigan Mental Health Code.

CONFIDENTIALITY

It is the policy of GLC to treat all patient information confidentially. This includes patient records and conversations. We will investigate any reported violation of this policy. If you have any questions, please ask a front desk representative for information. GLC makes every effort to provide our patients with an environment, which is safe, private and respectful of our patient’s needs. If you have a complaint about our services, facilities or staff, we want to hear from you. We will do everything we can to see that your experience with us is professional in every way.

ISSUES OF CARE

GLC is committed to your participation in treatment decisions. As a client you have the right to ask questions and receive answers regarding the course of clinical care recommended by any of our Clinicians, including discontinuing care. We urge you to follow the treatment directions given to you by our Clinicians. If you question the treatment provided by one of our Clinicians, and you are unable to resolve it with the Clinician directly, please ask to speak with the Outpatient Services Director.

PATIENT RIGHTS

1. A patient shall not be denied appropriate treatment on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sex, handicap, sexual preference, or source of payment.
2. The patient has the right to receive evidence based treatment designed to improve or recover from autism and/or other behavioral disorders. GLC embraces and practices the principles of applied behavioral analysis (ABA). Patients not accepting treatment under the principles of applied behavioral analysis have the right to be referred to an alternative provider.





3. The patient has the right to receive information from the Clinician and to discuss the benefits, risks, and costs of appropriate treatment options. Patients should receive guidance from their Clinician as to the optimal course of action. Patients are also entitled to obtain copies or summaries of their medical records, to have their questions answered, to be advised of potential conflicts of interest that their Clinicians might have, and to receive independent professional opinions.
4. The patient has the right to make decisions regarding the treatment that is recommended by his or her Clinician. Accordingly, patients may accept or refuse any recommended medical treatment.
5. The patient has the right to courtesy, respect, dignity, responsiveness, and timely attention to his or her needs, regardless of race, religion, ethnic or national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, or disability.
6. The patient has the right to confidentiality. The Clinician will not reveal confidential communications or information without the consent of the patient, unless provided for by law or by the need to protect the welfare of the individual or the public interest.
7. The patient has the right to continuity of treatment. The Clinician has an obligation to cooperate in the coordination of medically indicated care with other Clinicians and healthcare providers treating the patient. The Clinician may discontinue care provided they give the patient reasonable assistance and direction, and sufficient opportunity to make alternative arrangements.
8. A patient is entitled to be free from mental and physical abuse and from physical and chemical restraints, except those necessitated by an emergency to protect the patient and/or others.

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Good communication is essential to a successful Clinician-patient relationship. To the extent possible, patients have a responsibility to be truthful and to express their concerns clearly to their Clinician.
2. Patients have a responsibility to provide a complete medical history, social, and behavioral history; including information about past illnesses, medications, hospitalizations, family history, prior treatment, and other matters relating to the presenting condition.



3. Patients have a responsibility to request information or clarification about their status or treatment when they do not fully understand what has been described.
4. Once the patient and the Clinician agree upon the goals of therapy, patients have a responsibility to cooperate with the treatment plan. Compliance with Clinician instructions is often essential to public and individual safety. Patients have a responsibility to attend appointments as scheduled and to notify GLC of cancellations (for details, please reference the Consent for Services Agreement).
5. Patients should also have an active interest in the effects of their conduct on others and refrain from behavior that unreasonably places the others receiving treatment at GLC at risk.

Patient Name

Date

Date of Birth

Account Number

Signature of Legal Representative or Self (if an adult)

Date

