Patients' Rights

- 1. The patient has the right to considerate professional medical care provided with understanding by qualified personnel.
- 2. The patient has the right to know the name of the doctor and other healthcare professionals who treat him/her. He/she has the right to request privacy and services commensurate with the health care institute's capabilities, as well as the opportunity to have daily contact with members of his/her family or friends. Restrictions on the right to continuous visits may only be applied for serious reasons.
- 3. The patient has the right to obtain from his/her doctor the data necessary to enable him/her to make an informed decision on whether to agree to it before starting any new diagnostic or therapeutic procedure. Except in cases of acute danger, he/she should be duly informed of the possible risks associated with that procedure. If there are several alternative procedures or if the patient requires information about treatment alternatives, he/she has the right to be informed about them. He/she also has the right to know the names of the people who take part in the procedures.
- 4. To the extent permitted by law, the patient has the right to refuse treatment and, at the same time, should be informed of the health consequences of his decision.
- 5. During outpatient and inpatient examination, care and treatment, the patient has the right to have maximum regard for his privacy and shame in connection with the treatment program. His case analysis, consultation and treatment are confidential and must be done discreetly. The presence of persons who are not directly involved in the treatment must be approved by the patient, even in faculty facilities, unless the patient has chosen these persons himself.
- 6. The patient has the right to expect that all reports and records concerning his treatment are treated as confidential. The protection of patient information must also be ensured in cases of computer processing.
- 7. The patient has the right to expect that the hospital must, as far as possible, adequately comply with the patient's requests for care to the extent appropriate to the nature of the illness. If necessary, the patient may be transferred to another medical institution or transferred there after having been provided with a full substantiation and information on the necessity for such transfer and other alternatives that exist. The institution that is to take the patient into its care must first approve the transfer.
- 8. The patient has the right to expect that his treatment will be conducted with reasonable continuity. He/she has the right to know in advance which doctors are available, at what hours and at what place. After discharge, he/she has the right to expect that the hospital will determine the procedure as to how the doctor will continue to provide information on what his/her next care will be.
- 9. The patient has the right to a detailed and comprehensible explanation if the doctor decides to perform a non-standard procedure or experiment. The written conscious consent of the patient is a condition for the initiation of non-therapeutic and therapeutic research. The patient may withdraw from the experiment at any time, without giving a reason, after being informed of the possible health consequences of such a decision.
- 10. The patient at the end of life has the right to sensitive care by all health care professionals who must respect his/her wishes, unless these are in conflict with applicable laws.
- 11. The patient has the right and obligation to know and follow the valid rules of the medical institution where he/she is being treated (i.e. hospital rules). The patient has the right to check his/her account and demand substantiation of his/her charges regardless of who has paid the account.

The Code of Ethics "Patients' Rights" was proposed, finally formulated and approved by the Central Ethics Commission of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic after a comment procedure. These patients' rights are declared valid as of February 25, 1992.