

# Medical Treatment: Understand What You Are Agreeing To

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## What does my health care provider have to tell me about a proposed medical treatment?

"Informed consent" means you have a right to get enough info to make an intelligent decision about your medical care. You have the right to decide what happens to your body. Medical providers should tell you:

- The nature and character of the proposed treatment
- Its anticipated results
- The recognized possible alternative treatments, including non-treatment
- The recognized possible risks, complications, and anticipated benefits involved in the treatment

You may choose not to get this info.

## I received medical treatment that I did not give informed consent for. What should I do?

Talk to a lawyer. If your health care provider's failure to get your informed consent has injured you, you may be able to get money damages.

If a lawyer thinks you have a good case, they might take your case on a "contingency fee" basis. You will not have to pay the lawyer any fees at the start of the case or if you lose. If you win, the lawyer's fee will be a percentage of what you win. The contract you sign with the lawyer will determine what that percentage will be. **Read any contract carefully before signing.**

A lawyer should talk with you for free to see if you have a good case. To find a lawyer, check with your local bar association.

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