# LGBTQ ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

People who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer (LGBTQ) deserve equal, respectful & knowledgeable care in all health care settings by all providers, staff members & volunteers.

The care receive should be mindful of your sexual orientation, sexual behavior, gender identity & gender expression.

Doctors & all staff working in a health care setting should use the name & pronoun you want to be identified by. Even if they must use your name & gender status on your insurance card for billing.



You may have to work with providers to affirm & incorporate your sexual orientation, gender identity & gender expression into care.

IN NEW YORK CITY, IT IS ILLEGAL TO DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF A PERSON'S SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OR GENDER EXPRESSION IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS, INCLUDING IN HEALTH CARE SETTINGS.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO?

- Assistance applying for health insurance
- Primary care
- Emergency care
- · Sexual health care, including preventive services; risk & harm reduction counseling; & testing & treatment for HIV, sexually transmitted infections, viral hepatitis & HPV-related cancers
- Breast Cancer services

- Gender transition-related care
- Reproductive health care & family planning
- Mental & behavioral health care (trauma, including care after hate violence, sexual violence & intimate partner violence
- Alcohol & drug use evaluation, counseling & treatment

WE KNOW LGBTQ INDIVIDUALS FACE A NUMBER OF BARRIERS TO GETTING THE ROUTINE HEALTH CARE & CANCER SCREENING TESTS THEY NEED. FOR KNOWLEDGEABLE PROVIDERS GO TO:



https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/NYCSiteLocator/ home/ByServices?services=114,115.116.117



For more help finding the right medical services & provider, you can also call 311.

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#### WE CAN ALSO HELPYOU



# HEALTH CARE BILL OF RIGHTS

### IN JUNE 2017, MAYOR BILL DE BLASIO'S ADMINISTRATION LAUNCHED THE CITY'S FIRST-EVER LGBTQ HEALTH BILL OF RIGHT.

- 1. Be treated with dignity, respect & professionalism by all providers & all staff.
- 2. Receive compassionate, judgement-free & comprehensive care that is mindful of your sexual orientation, gender identity & gender expression.
- 3. Respectful discussions with providers about your health & health care needs, including your sexual history & current sex life.
- 4. Have your gender identity & gender expression recognized, affirmed, documented & accommodated.
- 5. Clear explanations of requests for your health information.
- 6. Clear explanations of all medical procedures & risks, & the right to choose or refuse any treatment.
- 7. Access health insurance coverage & benefits without discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.
- 8. Choose who will make medical decisions for you if you are unable. If you are a minor, you have the right to have your voice heard & best interests included in these decisions.
- 9. Decide who may & may not visit you if you are admitted to a health care facility.
- Privacy & confidentiality.



SEE THE LGBTO HEALTH CARE BILL OF RIGHTS (PDF) AT http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/ah/lgbtg-bor-wallet.pdf

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE BEEN MISTREATED OR DENIED CARE BECAUSE OF YOUR SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OR GENDER EXPRESSION?

FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE CITY'S COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS BY CALLING

718-722-3131

YOU CAN ALSO CALL 311 OR FILE A COMPLAINT ONLINE.

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