

Medical records, trial testimony and hospital brief depict unethical conduct, exclusion of family from health care decisions and failure to address the forgoing or withdrawing of life-sustaining treatment.

## Standards

The following is a list of all standards for this function. They are presented here for your convenience without footnotes or other explanatory text. If you have a question about a term used here, please check the Glossary, page 327. Terms that are critical to the understanding of the standard are defined in footnotes in the next section of this chapter—Standards and Intent Statements.

### Patient Rights

**RI.1** The hospital addresses ethical issues in providing patient care.

**RI.1.1** The patient's right to treatment or service is respected and supported.

**RI.1.2** Patients are involved in all aspects of their care.

**RI.1.2.1** Informed consent is obtained.

**RI.1.2.1.1** All patients asked to participate in a research project are given a description of the expected benefits.

**RI.1.2.1.2** All patients asked to participate in a research project are given a description of the potential discomforts and risks.

**RI.1.2.1.3** All patients asked to participate in a research project are given a description of alternative services that might also prove advantageous to them.

**RI.1.2.1.4** All patients asked to participate in a research project are given a full explanation of the procedures to be followed, especially those that are experimental in nature.

**RI.1.2.1.5** All patients asked to participate in a research project are told that they may refuse to participate, and that their refusal will not compromise their access to services.

**RI.1.2.2** Patients and, when appropriate, their families are informed about the outcomes of care, including unanticipated outcomes.

**RI.1.2.3** The family participates in care decisions.

**RI.1.2.4** Patients are involved in resolving dilemmas about care decisions.

**RI.1.2.5** The hospital addresses advance directives.

**RI.1.2.6** The hospital addresses withholding resuscitative services.

**RI.1.2.7** The hospital addresses forgoing or withdrawing life-sustaining treatment.

**RI.1.2.8** The hospital addresses care at the end of life.