



FACULTY OF GENERAL DENTAL PRACTICE (UK)  
THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **FGDP(UK) publishes *Patients' Rights and Responsibilities***

Patients undergoing dental treatment have a right to receive a high level of care without undue worry. The lay advisory group (LAG) at the Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK) has developed *Patients' Rights and Responsibilities*, which sets out what patients can expect as part of their oral healthcare service, as well as the patient's own responsibilities.

The FGDP(UK)'s LAG believes it is important for patients – whether they are being treated in high street practices or in a hospital environment – to understand their rights and responsibilities in this process. *Patients' Rights and Responsibilities* spells out in clear terms what patients can do to help ensure they receive high quality care. The guide includes patients' rights in terms of:

- \* what to expect from their dental care professionals
- \* information on decisions regarding treatment
- \* how you are treated as a person during your care
- \* information on cost of treatment.

Patient responsibilities include the manner in which staff and other patients are treated, appropriate disclosure of information, and attendance at appointments.

LAG chairman, Peter E Sanders, states, *'The aim of the guide is to encourage positive relations between dentists and patients and to promote best practice in the clinical environment. We hope this publication will be useful to the dental teams dealing with dental patients as well as to patients themselves.'*

*'The FGDP(UK)'s board fully endorses Patients' Rights and Responsibilities',* says FGDP(UK) Dean, Mike Mulcahy. *'By providing a downloadable version on our website, we hope that as many dentists as possible will share the information with their teams and also with their patients as a way of showing how dentists are working with patients to improve services. I believe that the document makes a positive contribution to the FGDP(UK)'s commitment to the highest standards of dental practice and patient care.'*

*Patients' Rights and Responsibilities* is available on the patient information pages of the FGDP(UK) website at [www.fgdp.org.uk](http://www.fgdp.org.uk).

ENDS

The Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK) is the academic home for general dental practitioners in the UK. Based at The Royal College of Surgeons of England, it aims to promote excellence in the standards of patient care in general dental practice by encouraging involvement in postgraduate training and assessment, education and research. The FGDP(UK) also recognises the value of the dental team in modern dentistry and actively supports the career development of dental care professionals.

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