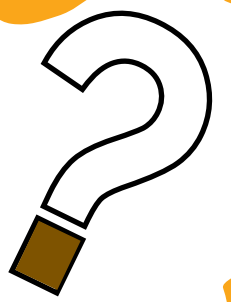


What's the

RIGHT TO INFORMATION



Access to information is your right to know

Why should you have a right to know?

When you know your rights you can fight for them

When you know your rights you can share them with others

When we all know our rights we can all join together to fight for them

Why should you have access to information?

Access to information is the first step to making human rights work in our society

Access to information is the first step to making the right to health and health care work in our society

Access to information is important for accountability and transparency.

When there is no accountability and transparency, there may be conflict and distrust

Transparency: means openness. In a democracy you have the right to ask questions about certain policies or decisions made by government.

Accountability: individuals, organisations, government and the community are responsible for their actions and should be able [may be required] to explain them to others.

What does Uganda's Constitution say about your right to know and access to information?

Article 41 says that every citizen has a right of access:

1. Any to information in the possession of the State or any other organ or agency of the State except where the release of the information is likely to prejudice the security or sovereignty of the State or interfere with the right to the privacy of any other person.
2. Parliament shall make laws prescribing the classes of information referred to in clause (1) of this article and the procedure for obtaining access to that information.

For more information please contact:



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1. What are human rights?
2. The right to health
3. The patients' rights charter
4. Access to information
5. Community involvement and the right to health
6. Individual and collective rights in public health

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THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION





What legislation concerns your right to know and access to information?

Access to Information Act, 2005

This Act aims to:

- to promote an efficient, effective, transparent and accountable Government;
- to give effect to article 41 of the Constitution by providing the right of access to information held by organs of the State, other than exempt records and information;
- to protect persons disclosing evidence of contravention of the law, maladministration or corruption in Government bodies;
- to promote transparency and accountability in all organs of the State by providing the public with timely, accessible and accurate information; and
- to empower the public to effectively scrutinise and participate in Government decisions that affect them.



Uganda Medical and Dental Practitioners Council Code of Professional Ethics

Under Rule 6 require medical and dental practitioners to observe the confidentiality and privacy of their patients except with their consent.

What the patients must know:

1. **The health care provider must inform the users** of the services, where possible, in a language and in the manner that the user understands
2. **You have a right to know about the health services**
 - The types and availability of health services
 - The organization of health services
 - Operating schedules and timetables for visits
 - Procedures for access to health services
 - Procedures for laying complaints
 - Rights and duties of users and health care providers
3. **You have a right to know about treatment**
 - The information about your health and treatment options
 - That you can refuse treatment

