



Fact Sheet

The Coalition for Patients' Rights™ (CPR) was formed in 2006 to meet the growing and increasingly diverse needs of the U.S. health care system by supporting the rights of patients to have access to the quality health care professionals of their choice. CPR believes that patients are best served when they have access to a team of health care professionals who work together to ensure overall health and wellness.

About CPR

CPR is a national coalition of more than 35 organizations that represents over three million licensed and/or certified health care professionals committed to ensuring comprehensive health care choices for all patients.

The Coalition is comprised of a diverse array of health care providers; members include optometrists, chiropractors, psychologists, registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses (including certified registered nurse anesthetists, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists and certified nurse midwives), therapists, audiologists, naturopathic physicians, practitioners of Oriental medicine and other non-M.D. (doctors of medicine) and non-D.O. (doctors of osteopathy) health care providers.

The Coalition advocates for the legally authorized rights of its members to practice to the full extent of their abilities, education, qualifications and legal authority.

Importance of Patients' Rights to Access and Choice

CPR advocates for patients, protecting their right to access care from a broad spectrum of health care professionals. We believe:

- Patients should be able to choose the type of provider that best suits their individual health care and wellness needs.
- Access to a range of health care options ensures that patients are able to receive the right care at the right time.
- Patients should have access to a variety of safe, high-quality and cost-effective health care professionals and services.

- **Founded:** 2006
- **Membership:** More than 35 organizations representing three million non-physician health care professionals
- **Focus Areas:** Federal and state legislative and regulatory activities related to scope of practice, licensing, health insurance coverage and patient access issues.



CPR's Position on Limiting Scope of Practice

CPR monitors the legislative and regulatory environment at the federal and state levels to identify efforts to limit the scope of practice of non-M.D., non-D.O. health care providers. The Coalition believes that limiting the ability of health care professionals to practice and provide appropriate care places an enormous and unnecessary burden on the U.S. health care system. Further, we believe that it is inappropriate for organizations representing doctors of medicine and osteopathy (M.D.s and D.O.s) to advise legislators – as well as consumers, regulators, policy makers or payers – regarding the scope of practice of other licensed health care professionals whose practices are authorized by law.

As the nation's health care needs grow and diversify due to an aging population, changing demographics, health care provider shortages and spiraling costs, the availability of the full array of trained and licensed health care providers will be needed to meet demands.

Now is the time for all health care professionals to work together, not against one another, to advance the health and well-being of patients.

**For more information, visit our website:
www.patientsrightscoalition.org**