



Fact Sheet

The Coalition for Patients' Rights (CPR) was formed in 2006 to meet the diverse needs of the U.S. health care system by supporting the rights of patients to have access to qualified health care professionals of their choosing. 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 consisting of 14 organizations that represent more than 1 million licensed and/or certified health care professionals committed to ensuring comprehensive health care choices for all patients.

This diverse array of health care providers includes registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses, psychologists, therapists, audiologists, naturopathic physicians, pharmacists, nutrition specialists, and other health care providers who are not medical doctors (MDs) or doctors of osteopathy (DOs).

The Coalition advocates for the legal rights of its members to practice to the full extent of their education, training, licensure, and certification.

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 can 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: 14 member organizations representing more than 1 million health care professionals
- Focus: State legislative and regulatory activities related to scope of practice, patient access to care, licensing, and health insurance coverage



CPR's Position on Limiting Scope of Practice

CPR monitors the legislative and regulatory environment to identify efforts to limit the scope of practice of the health care professionals it represents. 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 it is inappropriate for organizations representing MDs and DOs to advise legislators, regulators, policymakers, payers, or consumers 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 educated 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.



CPR Member Organizations

American Academy of Audiology, American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, American Association of Naturopathic Physicians, American Association of Nurse Practitioners, American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, American Nutrition Association, American Occupational Therapy Association, American Psychological Association Services, Inc., American Physical Therapy Association, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Association of periOperative Registered Nurses, Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations

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