This site integrates other web sites - Armenia, Ukraine, Macedonia, Georgia and Russia.
Human Rights and Patient Care: Practitioner Guide
International News

India and Europe Trading Away Access to Medicines
Preventing Project Prevention
Ukraine: Stop Police Abuse of Methadone Patients
Welcome to Human Rights in Healthcare
David Powell on Health Care Freedom in H
Hospitals kill the fax and exchange health the Internet
Many links to other internet resources which are devoted to Human Rights
Practitioner Guides in Law and Health

A Joint Project of the Open Society Institute Law and Health Initiative (LAHI), Human Rights and Governance Grants Program (HRGGP), and the National Foundations in Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Russia, and Ukraine

Background
Legal, ethical, and human rights norms are an increasingly important component of the delivery of quality medical care. The Open Society Institute’s work on behalf of society’s most marginalized persons—injection drug users, people living with HIV, sex workers, Roma and other ethnic minorities—has shown that health systems can too often be places of punishment, coercion, and violations of basic rights to consent and confidentiality, rather than places of treatment and care. At the same time, doctors and health practitioners are often constrained in their ability to provide quality care to their patients, or are unaware of how to incorporate ethical and human rights norms into their work. There is an urgent need to support legal and administrative remedies for individual and systemic human rights abuse in health settings, and at the same time to establish non-punitive mechanisms of incorporating normative principles into patient care.

The Practitioner Guides Project
To this end, LAHI, in partnership with six national foundations, is supporting the development of a series of Practitioner Guides and a companion website for lawyers interested in taking patient rights cases. These will be practical, how-to manuals, covering both litigation and alternative mechanisms such as ombudspersons and medical licensing bodies. They will examine patient and provider rights and responsibilities and procedural mechanisms at national, regional, and international levels. Guides are currently being produced in Armenia, Georgia, Macedonia, and Ukraine, and Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia will begin work on this project in 2009.

Dissemination
Once published, these Practitioner Guides will be used as a basis for training and litigation support. They show
Welcome to the Health and Human Rights web site!

This site was created to address the legal, ethical, and human rights norms which are increasingly important to the delivery of quality patient care. In our experience, health systems can too often be places of punishment, coercion, breaches of confidentiality, and violations of the right to consent, rather than places of treatment and care. At the same time, doctors and health practitioners are often constrained in their ability to provide quality care to their patients, or are unaware of how to incorporate ethical and human rights norms into their work.

This web site currently unites the country web sites of Armenia, Georgia, Macedonia and Ukraine, with Russia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan coming online soon. The center piece of each site is “Human Rights in Patient Care: A Practitioner Guide.” These guides, customized to reflect the legal reality of each nation, include relevant laws and regulations, cases, tools, sample forms, and practical tips for lawyers defending the human rights of both patients and providers. The field of human rights in patient care is constantly changing and evolving and periodic updates of the Practitioner Guides will be available on this site. The web sites also provide ways to connect lawyers, health providers, and patients concerned about human rights in health care.

By working together, we will be able to increase the protection of human rights in the provision of patient care.

About this site
International News

- **13:22:46 26 Feb** India and Europe Trading Away Access to Medicines
  - Recent trade negotiations between India and the European Union may leave millions of people in developing countries without access to life-saving medicines, including AIDS drugs.

- **14:40:10 26 Feb** Preventing Project Prevention
  - After years of working in the United States, an organization that pays female drug users to be sterilized has turned its attention to Kenya, where it plans to start paying women living with HIV to submit to long-term contraception.

- **19:44:30 26 Feb** Ukraine: Stop Police Abuse of Methadone Patients
  - Political leaders in Ukraine must step in to halt police actions now endangering essential treatments for people living with and at risk for HIV.

- **17:29:48** HIV Testing and Human Rights: Resources and Fact Sheets
  - HIV testing is an important part of a comprehensive approach to HIV prevention and treatment, if it is provided in a way that respects basic human rights. However, there is growing evidence that in many countries women and marginalized groups are subjected to HIV testing practices that put them at risk of discrimination, and even violence.

- **13:19:05** Welcome to Human Rights in Healthcare Portal

- **01:00:00** David Powell on Health Care Freedom in Kansas

This is RSS International news represented by region sites
Contacts

Web Coordinators of sites from Armenia, Ukraine, Macedonia, Georgia and Russia
Welcome to the Community of Practice

Welcome to the Community of Practice, a place for advocates and faculty of law, human rights, and patient care courses to share materials and resources. Additionally, we invite health providers and health managers, NGO activists, students, and other stakeholders in health care service delivery to develop a network of strong practices regarding human rights in patient care. The Community of Practice has three main sections: Teaching Law and Health, Trainings on Human Rights in Patient Care, and Media Tools. We invite you to visit all of the sections, to use the materials, and to provide comment and feedback as we continue to expand the Community of Practice.