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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** VAHHS  
Designated Hospital Group Representatives

**CC:** DMH Commissioner's Office  
Mourning Fox, Mental Health Services Director  
Jaskanwar Batra, DMH Medical Director  
Karen Barber, DMH General Counsel

**FROM:** Emma Harrigan, Quality Management Director

**DATE:** September 23, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Updated Notice of Patient Rights

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It has come to our attention that older versions of DMH's *Notice of Patient Rights* are being circulated in hospitals and emergency rooms. Please refer to the DMH website (<http://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/policy>) and to the attached for the most recent version of this document. Should the *Notice of Patient Rights* document be updated in the future, notice and an updated copy will be provided.

This *Notice of Patient Rights* must be provided to those in the custody or temporary custody of the Commissioner of Mental Health. This includes both civil and forensic patients in emergency departments and inpatient psychiatric units.

Also, a signature page has been added at the request of the VAHHS Designated Hospital Workgroup. It is at the discretion of each hospital as to whether or not to incorporate this signature page in their distribution process. Signatures are not required by DMH nor does DMH require copies of the signature page.