AYA Bill of Rights

International Charter of Rights for Young People with Cancer

We are neither pediatrics nor geriatrics, we have unique needs—medically, socially and economically. We deserve to have our beliefs, privacy, and personal values respected regardless of race, gender or background. Access to quality cancer care is a right, not a privilege, and this is what we want.

We have the right to:

Receive education about cancer and its prevention including early detection.

Be taken seriously when seeking medical attention and receive the earliest possible diagnosis and speedy referral for suspected cancer.

Have access to suitably qualified multi-disciplinary medical specialists with significant experience in treating cancer in this age group.

Information about and reasonable access to clinical trials and treatment that has been clinically trialed with people in their age group.

Receive age-appropriate support including but not limited to psychosocial, community and palliative support services.

Empowerment in making decision supported by full and detailed explanation of all treatment options and long-term effects of the disease enabling them to actively influence their care.

Fertility preservation, as well as information and counseling concerning short-term and long-term effects of cancer and treatment which affect fertility.

Have access to specialized treatment and services in age-appropriate facilities alongside their peers.

Financial and practical support to minimize the burden of the disease during treatment.

Elimination of all forms of discrimination, during and beyond treatment, in education, vocation and insurance, or in the community.