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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA, CANADA

THE RIGHT OF PATIENTS TO ACCESS TO INFORMATION

A recent report by the Health Services Commission in Ontario has raised the question of the right of patients to access to information. The report states that the public has a right to know what is going on in the health services and that this information should be made available to them in a form which is understandable and useful. The report also states that the public has a right to be consulted in the planning and development of health services and that this consultation should be carried out in a way which is meaningful and effective. The report further states that the public has a right to be involved in the decision-making process and that this involvement should be carried out in a way which is meaningful and effective. The report concludes that the public has a right to access to information and that this right should be protected and promoted.

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