What Is A Health Advocate?

A family member or friend who will interact with health care providers on behalf of the person with severe disabilities who may need assistance or be unable to communicate clearly for himself or herself.

Responsibilities of a Health Advocate

- Organize information before a visit.
- Keep appointments or cancel far in advance, if possible.
- Facilitate communication between health care provider and patient.
- Share all relevant information with health care provider.
- Clarify information and/or medication or treatment described by provider.
- Write down all information and directions.
- Follow advice or report information accurately to caregivers.

Source: PACER Center, Inc. Date: 1993 No longer accessible online