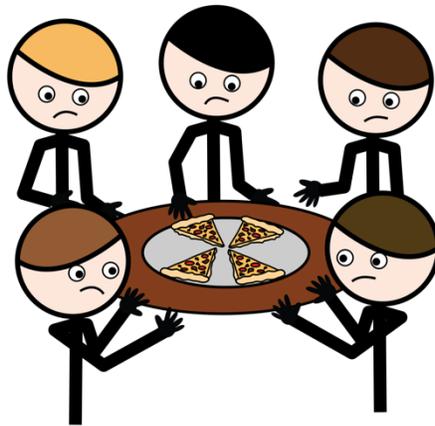


You may have heard some things lately about coronavirus or Covid-19 care. In some places across the country, some people have not been able to receive care at hospitals because of their disabilities.



Doctors and Nurses do not have enough medicine and in some cases, may need to make decisions about who gets medicine and who doesn't.



In Colorado, we are making sure that **EVERYONE** gets the chance to tell their medical story to get care. No one should decide who gets care based on a diagnosis or how they look.

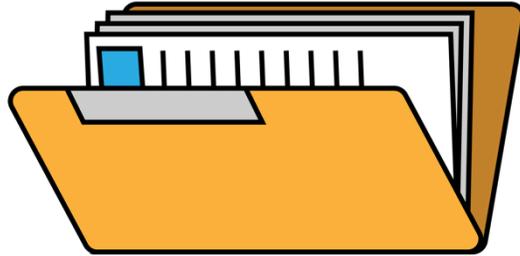


Colorado has created a plan to decide who gets care and who might not. This plan **WILL ONLY TAKE PLACE** if many people become sick and need to go to the hospital **AND** if there is not enough medicine for everyone.

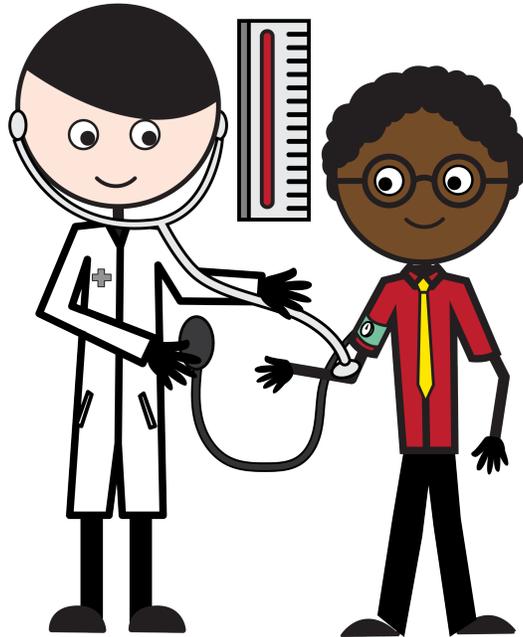


What is a medical story?

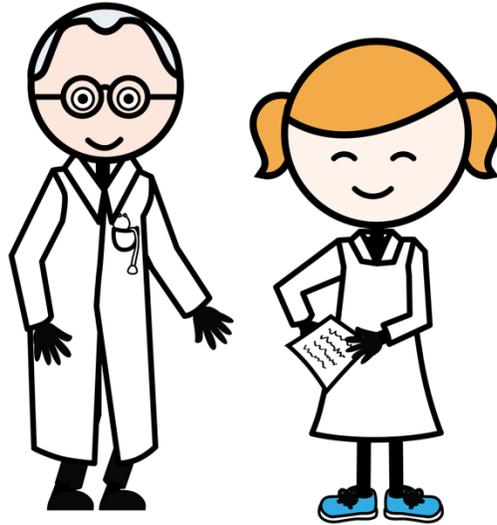
If you get sick from the Corona Virus / Covid-19 and need to go to the hospital, you have certain medical rights. These medical rights are based on your medical history, your personal medical story. This may also be referred to as an “individualized treatment plan”.



A doctor needs to look at your entire medical story. They may look at a diagnosis that you have as part of this story, but a diagnosis doesn't explain everything about you. The doctor can look at your medical records and your own information.



For example, the doctor might look at your blood pressure, your lung capacity, or your heart health. The doctor then uses these facts about your body and your medical story together to get a full idea of your health. From here, they can put together a treatment plan that is special to you.



A doctor cannot tell you that you cannot receive treatment based on a diagnosis alone. They need to look at your whole story in order to decide your treatment plan. The doctor cannot tell you that you cannot receive treatment based on your race, gender, sexual orientation, citizenship, how much money you have, or your religion. All people of all races, genders, sexual orientations, and religions, class, and nationalities should have equal access to treatment and are protected under the law.



What information can a doctor use to decide who gets medicine?

Some things about someone might make a difference in deciding who gets care. There are three steps that medical professionals might need to use to decide who gets care if we do not have enough medicine for everyone.

1) How sick are you and how likely is it that medicine will help you?

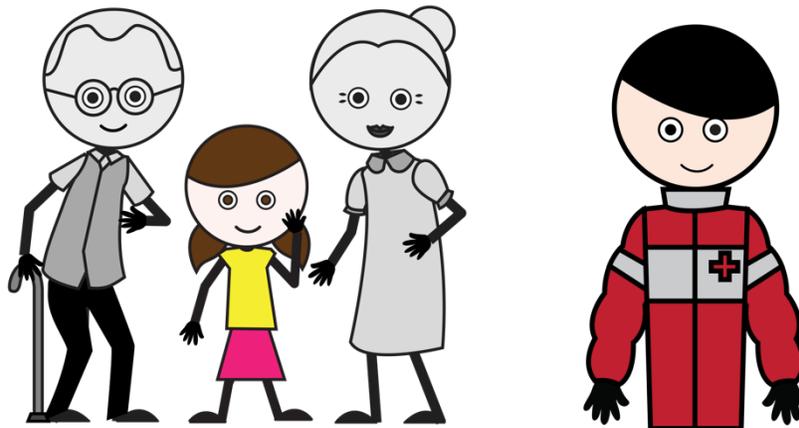
- If this information, based on your personal health story is unclear, the doctor will look at step 2.



2) Are you a child, doctor, nurse, health care worker, policeman, fireman, sheriff, or paramedic?

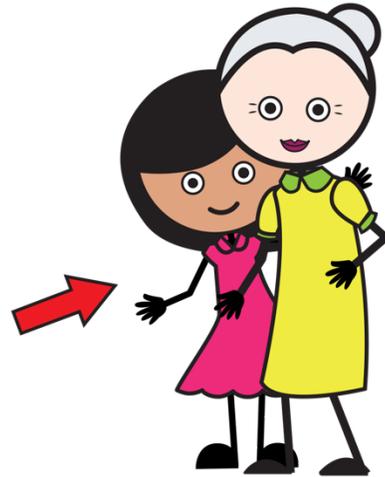
- If you are not a child, not a health care worker, and not a first

responder, the medical professional will look at step 3.



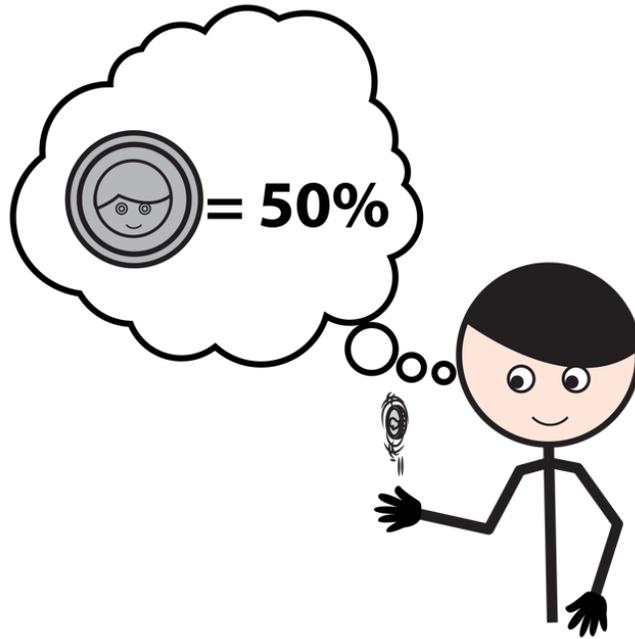
3) Are you pregnant? Do you alone take care of someone else? On average, how much longer will you live even if you are healthy?

- If you are not pregnant, if you do not take care of someone else alone, and if you and another patient might live the same amount of years, the medical professional will move on to step 4.

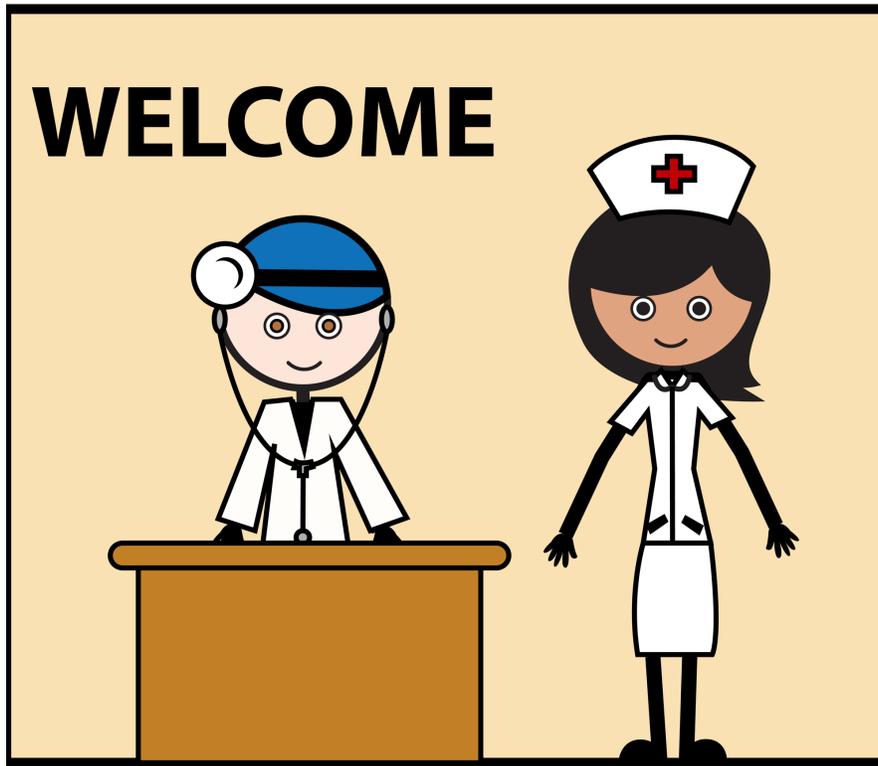


4) Random

- This means that the person who gets medicine will be totally random. No other information will be used, it is based purely on chance.



Right now, YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE AFRAID. We have medicine to treat the people who are sick. This plan would only impact Colorado if many people become sick and hospitals do not have enough medication to treat everyone.



No matter what happens, your doctors and nurses will do everything that they can to give you the best medical care.