



**Ostomy And Continent Diversion Patient Rights:  
 Research Validation of Standards of Care White Paper  
 ENDORSEMENT LETTER**

A task force created by United Ostomy Associations of America, Inc (UOAA), has substantiated the quality practices promoted in You Matter! Know What To Expect and Know Your Rights- Ostomy and Continent Diversion Patient Bill of Rights (PBOR) in a new policy paper.

In 2017 UOAA revised the original “Ostomate Bill of Rights”, creating the current PBOR. This document defines best practices and provides a guide for both patients and healthcare professionals to achieve quality ostomy care.

The PBOR provides a solid foundation to build efforts to educate and inform. The research validation of these quality practices will strengthen the impact and encourage adoption into practice. This adoption into practice will drive the quality improvement change that is needed for the ostomy and continent diversion community as well as support the National Quality Forum Initiative: The Care We Need: Driving Better Health Outcomes for People and Communities.

UOAA plans to use this policy paper as a resource in UOAA’s National Quality of Ostomy Care Campaign to drive systemic change as well as be shared with government agencies, key decision makers in health care facilities at all levels of care, and everyone who is invested in the achievement of quality ostomy care. Additionally, in 2021 the European Ostomy Association (EOA) declared the motto for World Ostomy Day as “Ostomates’ Rights Are Human Rights - anytime and anywhere!” to put a focus back on the International Charter of Ostomates’ Rights. The EOA’s goal is to: “underline that ostomate rights are not

negotiable. They must be respected by governments, politicians, health care authorities, companies and suppliers, by doctors and nurses, by every human and by every society - even in uncertain times." This White Paper aspires to achieve this goal in the United States.

We, the undersigned, endorse the White Paper entitled *Ostomy And Continent Diversion Patient Rights: Research Validation of Standards of Care*:

American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons  
Better Health  
Byram Healthcare®  
Coloplast  
Convatec  
Corstrata  
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Fight Colorectal Cancer  
International Foundation for Gastrointestinal Disorders  
National Alliance of Wound Care and Ostomy®  
The Wound and Ostomy Education Program at San Jose State University  
The Wound Company  
United Ostomy Associations of America, Inc.  
World Council of Enterostomal Therapists®  
Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses Certification Board®  
Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses Society®