

Healthcare Is a Human Right Campaign

November 2014



Green Mountain Care “Benefits”: Human Rights Assessment Tool

PRINCIPLE	PROPOSAL 1	PROPOSAL 2	PROPOSAL 3	PROPOSAL 4
<p><i>I. Universality</i> <i>Act 48: The purpose of Green Mountain Care is to provide, as a public good, comprehensive, affordable, high-quality, publicly financed health care coverage for all Vermont residents in a seamless and equitable manner (18 V.S.A. § 9371).</i></p>				
<p>1. Will GMC provide comprehensive healthcare services to meet health needs, rather than a limited “package” of “benefits”?</p>				
<p>2. Will GMC provide all medically necessary screening, treatments, therapies, drugs, and devices, including mental, dental and vision care, full reproductive care, transgender care, alternative/complementary care, durable and adaptive medical equipment, including hearing aids?</p>				
<p>3. Will GMC provide long-term care?</p>				
<p>4. Will GMC eliminate different tiers of benefits and instead provide access to the same level of care for all?</p>				
<p>5. Will GMC ensure access to care on the basis of clinical need, not payment, employment, availability of other insurance, immigration status, or other factors?</p>				

<p>II. Equity Act 48: Systemic barriers, such as cost, must not prevent people from accessing necessary healthcare. (18 V.S.A. § 9371). The financing of health care must be sufficient, fair, predictable, transparent, sustainable, and shared equitably. (18 V.S.A. § 9371)</p>				
1. Will GMC eliminate financial barriers to care, including deductibles, co-pays, co-insurance or other out-of-pocket costs?				
2. Will payments for GMC be collected independently from the actual use of care?				
3. Will GMC provide adequate and sufficient health services to meet health needs?				
4. Will GMC provide health services that adequately serve communities and individuals with diverse and complex health needs?				
5. Will GMC provide resources for transportation, interpretation, health education, etc. to eliminate access barriers?				
<p>III. Participation Act 48: The state must ensure public participation in the design, implementation, evaluation, and accountability mechanisms in the health care system. (18 V.S.A. § 9371)</p>				
1. Will GMC involve communities in assessing their health needs and determining how those needs are met?				

2. Will communities participate in decision-making and regular review of the level of services and care GMC provides?				
<p>IV. Public Good Act 48: The purpose of Green Mountain Care is to provide, as a public good, comprehensive, affordable, high-quality, publicly financed health care (33 V.S.A. § 1821).</p>				
1. Will GMC treat healthcare as a public good that is free to all at the point of service (like K-12 education, fire services etc.)?				

Note: the above tool is linked to the human rights standards for GMC “benefits”:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/13amJ13M6oLOxA1_e1occtW5iLvx2U0VFODfrDCvnJxs/edit