



# What legislation concerns your right to know and access to information?



## **Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA) (No 2, 2000) aims to**

- promote transparency and accountability in the public as well as the private sectors
- provide ways for you to access information
- balance the right to access information with the right to confidentiality and privacy

## **Protected Disclosures Act (PDA) (No 26, 2000) encourages people**

- to raise concerns – whistle blow – about wrongdoing in the workplace, such as financial wrong-doing, stealing of medication, discrimination against patients, or unfair dismissal
- to help make sure than organizations address the problem
- to help make sure organizations resist the temptation to cover up malpractice.

## **National Health Act (NHA) (No 61, 2006) tells government**

- what it should do to make real the right to health and health care.

# **What does the NHA say about your right to know and access to information**

## **The NHA states that**

1. The health care provider must inform the users of the services, where possible, in a language and in the manner that the user understands
2. You have a right to know about the health services
  - The types and availability of health services
  - The organization of health services
  - Operating schedules and timetables for visits
  - Procedures for access to health services
  - Procedures for laying complaints
  - Rights and duties of users and health care providers
3. You have a right to know about treatment
  - The information about my health and treatment options
  - That you can refuse treatment
  - That you must be informed before you are asked to consent to treatment or care a health service provider
  - That you can participate in decisions about your care
  - That you should be provided with a written report when you are discharged from health establishment
  - That you should have access to your personal information
  - That your medical records are kept confidential

