

# Crosswalk to Advance Directives: What Healthcare Providers Should Know



Sue Dill Calloway

RELIAS  
LEARNING

## Speaker

---



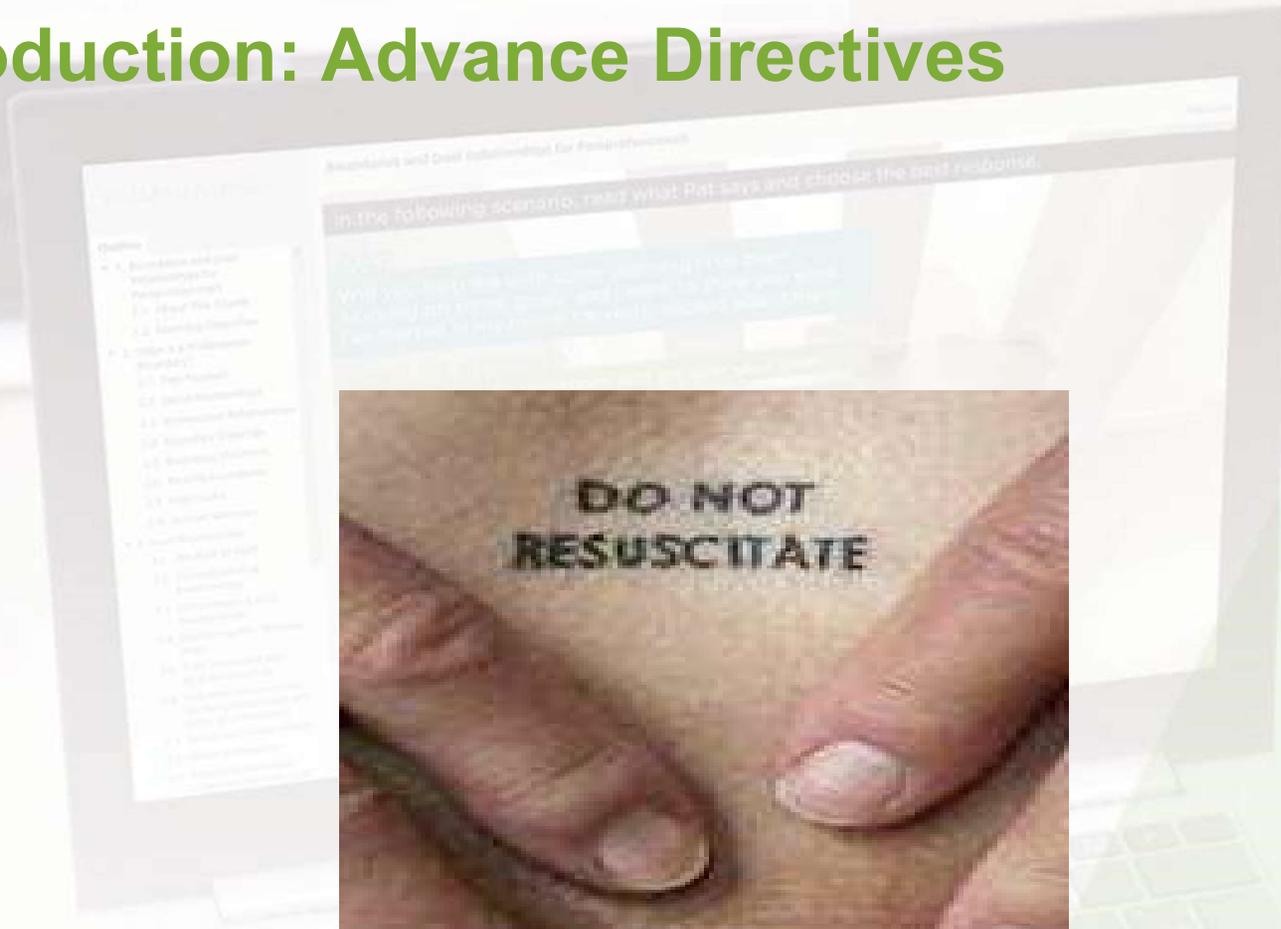
- Sue Dill Calloway RN Esq.  
CPHRM, CCMSCP, AD, BA,  
BSN, MSN, JD
- President Patient Safety and  
Healthcare Consulting
- 5447 Fawnbrook Lane  
Dublin, Ohio 43017
- 614 791-1468  
(Call with questions, no emails)
- [sdill1@columbus.rr.com](mailto:sdill1@columbus.rr.com)
- Email questions to CMS at  
[hospitalscg@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:hospitalscg@cms.hhs.gov)

## Objectives

---

- Describe the CMS CoPs and TJC standards on advance directives.
- Explain what is required under the Patient Self-Determination Act.
- Explain that the hospital's advance directive policies must be given to inpatients, ED, observation, and same day surgery patients.

# Introduction: Advance Directives



## 1/3 of Patients Have Advanced Directives

- A recent article found that only 1/3 (36%) of all patients have an advance directive
  - Study done between 2011 and 2016 and published in 2017
- Study looked at data on 800,000 patients and 150 studies
- Rates close between patients with chronic conditions (38%) and healthy patients (33%)
- Discusses initiatives to increase the number of patients with advance directives
  - Published in Health Affairs July 2017 at <http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/36/7/1244.abstract>

## 2 out of 3 adults fail to complete an advance directive

by Paige Minemyer | Jul 6, 2017 12:00pm

[/www.fiercehealthcare.com/healthcare/1-3-u-s-adults-have-completed-advance-directive-study-finds?utm\\_medium=nl&utm\\_source=internal&mrkid=990487&mkt\\_tok=eyJpIjoiTVRaaU5UZGhNbVprTURWaSIsInQiOiJSSTZJUTFOMIA1bBxaWtQdENyUmxiRXh1ZmtyZlA5b2dCd1RQODV0NHBWNzlhTUUpDSXJnMitBMk5TR1puSW5wUm9TYnZ6NHRZZ2xrcXRTMWJyc0NOSXUramtMcjZqNmUxUUM1SkZYWkxrcVFZRzdjVXdLKzErZ2gzTldlRWIhbyJ9](http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/healthcare/1-3-u-s-adults-have-completed-advance-directive-study-finds?utm_medium=nl&utm_source=internal&mrkid=990487&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTVRaaU5UZGhNbVprTURWaSIsInQiOiJSSTZJUTFOMIA1bBxaWtQdENyUmxiRXh1ZmtyZlA5b2dCd1RQODV0NHBWNzlhTUUpDSXJnMitBMk5TR1puSW5wUm9TYnZ6NHRZZ2xrcXRTMWJyc0NOSXUramtMcjZqNmUxUUM1SkZYWkxrcVFZRzdjVXdLKzErZ2gzTldlRWIhbyJ9)



*An advance directive can prevent patients from undergoing unwanted care at the end of life. Yet new research shows that few adults in the United States have one.*



Few patients have an advance directive in place, according to a new study, which calls on the healthcare industry to address common barriers to completing the documents.

## Advance Directives

---

- Know your specific state law on advance directives
- Know the federal law on advance directives
- Know the CMS hospital CoP on advance directives
- Know the Joint Commission standards on advance directives (or your accreditation organization: AOA HFAP, DNV or CIHQ)
  - Including the TJC Tracer
- Know what to do if a patient shows up with a visitation advance directive

## Types of Advance Directives

---

- Living wills or Durable Power of Attorney (DPOA)
- Advance Directive combined forms
- DNR
- Patient advocate/support person declaration
- Declaration of Mental Health Directive
- Organ donor card
- Visitation advance directive
- Declaration to dispose of body after death

# Ask Patients About End of Life Wishes

---

## 6 Questions Every Doctor Should Be Asking Patients

 [Comment](#)  [Email](#)  [Print](#)  [RSS](#)  [ShareThis](#)

*Jacqueline Fellows, for HealthLeaders Media , January 22, 2015*

**End-of-life care for sick patients is garnering more attention from hospitals and health systems because of its impact on costs. Now leaders need to invest in training physicians to talk to patients about their concerns and wishes.**

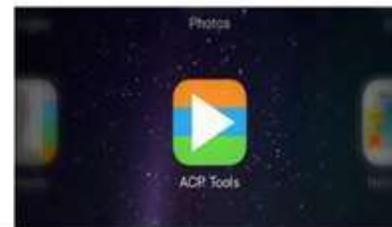
Angelo Volandes, MD, MPH, is passionate about patients. More specifically, he fervently believes that every physician has a responsibility to give patients information they need to make decisions about the medical interventions they want when they are dying. It's not an easy conversation, and Volandes believes, it's not optional, either.

## Ask Patients About End of Life Wishes

---

- Physician has responsibility to give patients information they need about decisions about medical interventions they want when they are dying
- Many hospitals require a code status on all admitted patients
- Many hospitals now have palliative care departments and studies show those that do have few ICU admissions and fewer use of ventilators
- Talk to patients about how they want to die
  - Advance Care Planning Decisions to help provide education

# Resources from Advanced Care Planning



## Toolkit CriSTAL to Identify Dying Patient

---

- Checklist to help identify patients for end-of-life care
- To help identify patients who are likely to die soon who would not benefit from costly interventions
- To determine when patients are dying so honest communication can occur and so palliative care can be provided
- Most patients express a preference for dying at home but the majority will die in the hospital
- CriSTAL stands for Criteria for Screening and Triaging to Appropriate Alternative Care

# Toolkit CriSTAL to Identify Dying Patient

Downloaded from <http://spcare.bmj.com/> on January 27, 2015 - Published by [group.bmj.com](http://group.bmj.com)

Review



OPEN ACCESS

## Development of a tool for defining and identifying the dying patient in hospital: Criteria for Screening and Triaging to Appropriate aLternative care (CriSTAL)

Magnolia Cardona-Morrell,<sup>1</sup> Ken Hillman<sup>2</sup>

► Additional material is published online only. To view please visit the journal online (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjspcare-2014-000770>).

<sup>1</sup>The Simpson Centre for Health Services Research, South Western Sydney Clinical School, The University of New South

### ABSTRACT

**Objective** To develop a screening tool to identify elderly patients at the end of life and quantify the risk of death in hospital or soon after discharge for to minimise prognostic uncertainty and avoid potentially harmful and futile treatments.

**Design** Narrative literature review of definitions, tools and measurements that could be combined

### BACKGROUND

The natural progression of chronic disease involves periods of apparent remission interspersed by exacerbations and, in the year leading to death, multiple hospitalisations.<sup>1</sup> Some indicators of poor prognosis can suggest a patient is nearing the *end of life*.<sup>2</sup> and have been found useful

# Checklist has 29 Predictors

They came up with a checklist of 29 predictors of death, including:

- Age 65 years or older, plus either emergency admission for the current hospitalization (associated with 25% mortality within 1 year) or two or more deterioration criteria, including change on the Glasgow Coma Score, low systolic blood pressure, slow or rapid respiration, low or high pulse rate, need for oxygen therapy or oxygen saturation less than 90%, hypoglycemia, or repeat or prolonged seizures.
- Additional risk factors or predictors of short- to medium-term death, including personal history of active disease (advanced malignancy, chronic kidney disease, chronic heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, new cerebrovascular disease, myocardial infarction, moderate or severe liver disease, cognitive impairment), as well as previous hospitalization within the last year, or repeat intensive care unit admission at the previous hospitalization.
- Other factors, such as evidence of frailty, residence in a nursing home or supported-living facility, proteinuria, and abnormal electrocardiogram findings.

## Roadmap Guide CMAJ

---

- Ask the question "Would I be surprised if this patient died in the next year?," supplemented by objective criteria such as age, chronic conditions and recent hospitalizations, to identify patients with whom end-of-life issues should be discussed
- Aim to understand what outcomes the patients considers acceptable, and how changes in their health might change those values
- Involve substitute decision-makers such as family in the discussion, ensuring they understand the patients' wishes so they can make difficult calls regarding appropriate therapies when the time comes

## Roadmap Guide End of Life Care

---

- Explain the risks and benefits of life-sustaining therapies
- Have patients establish any leeway they want granted to the substitute decision-makers in advance
- Explain the physician's role is to carry out the patients' wishes if it conflicts with that of substitute decision-makers
- Document the discussions and the resulting decisions
- Source; Just Ask: Discussing goals of care with patients in hospitals with serious illness, CMAJ, at <http://www.cmaj.ca/content/early/2013/07/15/cmaj.121274>

# CMS Form Hospice End of Life 18 Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

## Hospice, End of Life and/or Palliative Care Critical Element Pathway

Facility Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Facility ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Surveyor Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Resident Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Resident ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
Initial Admission Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Interviewable:  Yes  No Resident Room: \_\_\_\_\_  
Care Area(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### Use

Use this protocol for a sampled resident:

- Identified by the facility as receiving end of life care, hospice, palliative care, comfort care, or terminal care; or
- Diagnoses, assessment, and/or care plan indicate that he/she may be approaching the end of life.
  - *Palliative care means patient and family-centered care that optimizes quality of life by anticipating, preventing, and treating suffering. Palliative care throughout the continuum of illness involves addressing physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual needs and to facilitate patient autonomy, access to information, and choice.*
  - *“Hospice” refers to a public agency or private organization or subdivision of either of these that is primarily engaged in providing an array of care and services necessary for the palliation and management of the terminal illness and related conditions.*

NOTE: Hospice is a service that:

- Provides support and care for a resident who is terminally ill so that he/she may live as fully and as comfortable as possible;
- Views death as a natural part of life;
- Neither hastens death nor prolongs life; and
- Provides palliative care.

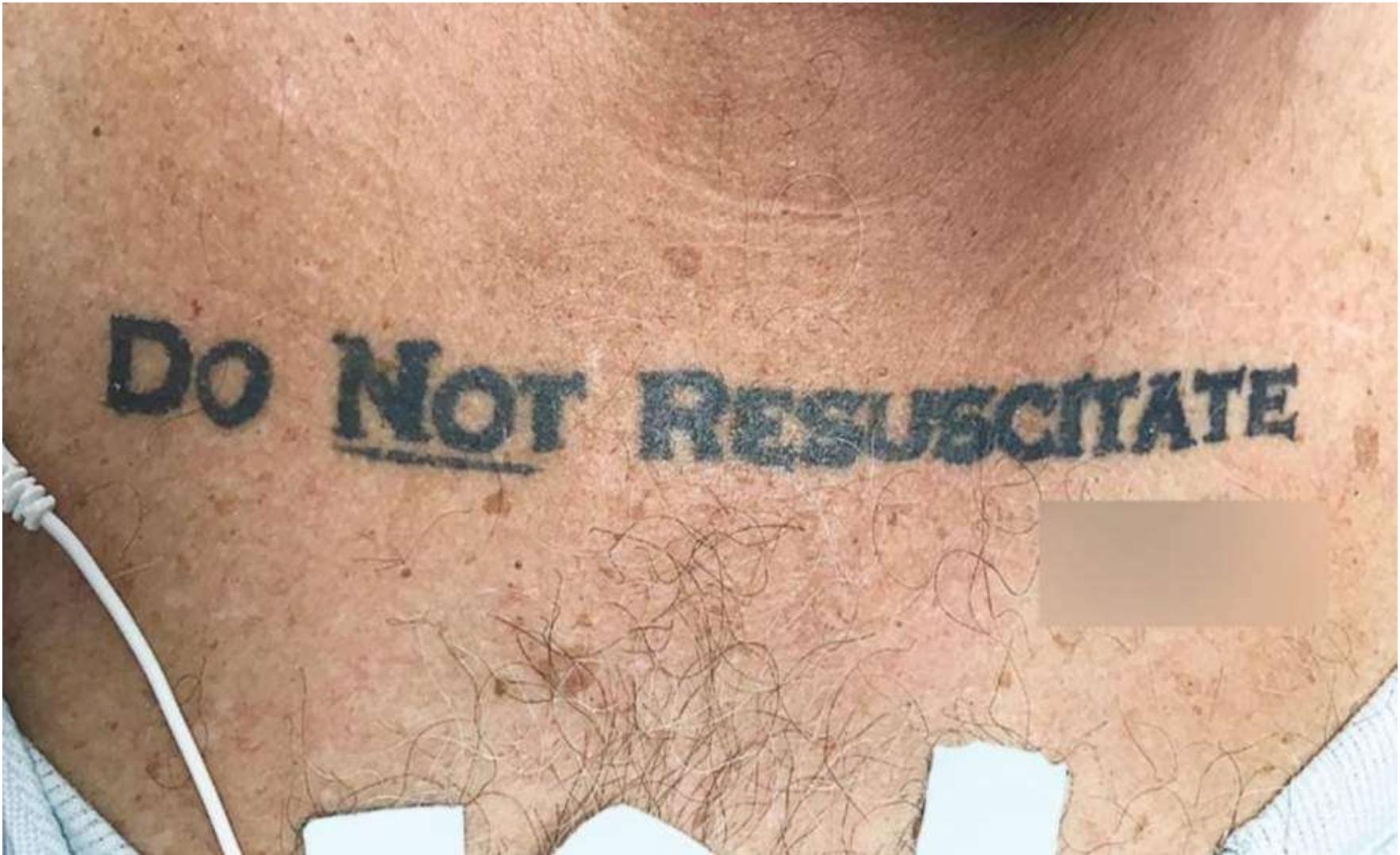
[www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/CMS-20073-Hospice-End-of-Life.pdf](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/CMS-20073-Hospice-End-of-Life.pdf)

### Procedure

- Briefly review the assessment, care plan, orders, and related documentation to identify facility interventions and to guide observations to be made.
- Verify observations by gathering additional information from record review, interviews with the resident or his or her legal representative, relevant staff and practitioners, and/or additional observations.

NOTE: Determine whether the resident is also receiving care from another entity such as a Medicare-certified hospice.

## What Would You Do If You Saw This?

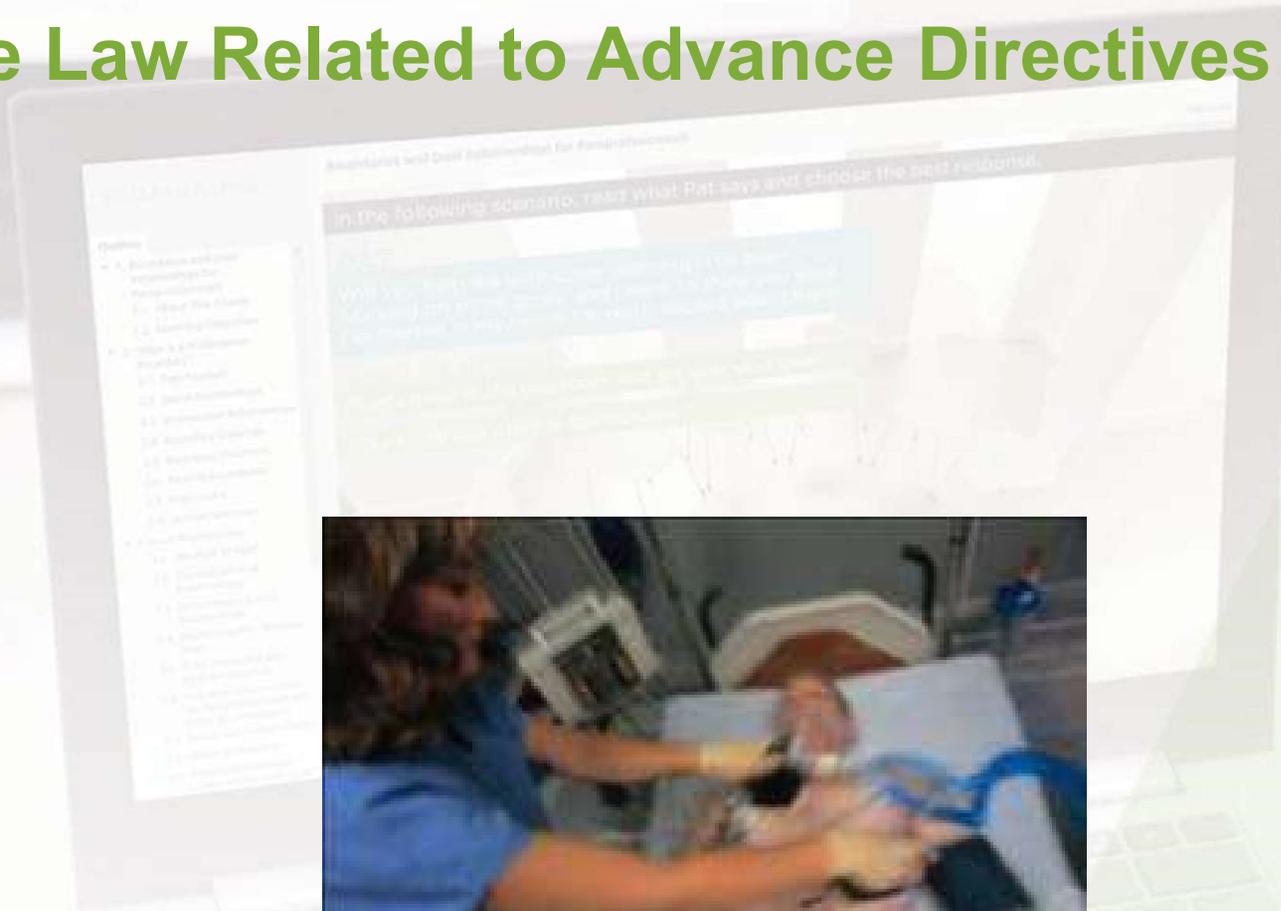


## Do Not Resuscitate Tattoo

---

- In 2017, a patient was brought in to ED at University of Miami hospital unconscious with this tattoo
- Published in NEJM Nov 30, 2017
  - [www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc1713344?af=R&rss=currentIssue&#t=article](http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc1713344?af=R&rss=currentIssue&#t=article)
- Hx of COPD, DM, and atrial fib and elevated blood ETOH level
- Presented with no ID or family present
- Initially decided not to honor the tattoo
- Ethics consultants later advised to honor the DNR and social worker found a copy of his Florida DH out of hospital DNR order
- Note answer may also depend on your state law

# Case Law Related to Advance Directives





## Overview of Law

---

- A mentally competent adult has the legal right to refuse treatment even if that refusal would result in their death
- Both TJC (Joint Commission) and CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services) require that hospitals honor the patient's right to refuse treatment
- However, it must be an educated right with knowledge of risks and benefits
- Estimated that only 15-25% of patients have an advance directive

## Matter of Quinlan

---

- This case and the Cruzan case helped to establish the right to refuse life sustaining treatment, including the right for non-competent patients
- In earlier cases, the court appointed a guardian to assert the wishes of the unconscious patient
  - Family and patient together would make decisions without intervention of the court
- First case to mention PVS (permanent vegetative state)
- Karen took an overdose and arrested at age 21
  - 348 A.2d 801 (N.J. Super Ct 1975)

## Matter of Quinlan

---

- Judge found she could never return to a cognitive or sapient state
- Parents wanted her ventilator removed
- Karen quoted as saying she never wanted to be kept alive by extraordinary means
- Found the right to privacy
- Court allowed removal of her ventilator
  - Interestingly enough she lived nine more years dying June 11, 1985 of pneumonia

## Nancy Beth Cruzan

---

- This case illustrates why it is so important for every adult to have advance directives and to ensure their family is aware of their wishes
- 25 year old in single car accident
- Found 35 feet from car in ditch not breathing
- Without oxygen for 15-20 minutes
- Feeding tube inserted
- Requested tube be removed after five years (\$130,000 a year cost in state hospital)

## Nancy Beth Cruzan

---

- Spastic quadriplegic, contractures, fingers cut into her wrists, CT scan severe irreversible brain damage with brain degenerating, fluid in brain where there is no more brain tissue
- US Supreme Court held that patient's right to refuse medical treatment is protected by US Constitution
- Right to refuse medical treatment is a liberty interest protected by 14<sup>th</sup> amendment

## Nancy Beth Cruzan

---

- However, state's interest in preserving life and guarding against abuse of surrogate decision maker's powers allows state to regulate in this area
- Right to end life-sustaining treatment must be established by clear and convincing evidence
  - 474 U.S, 261, 110 S. Ct. 2841 (1990)
- This is why it is important for every person to have advance directives so that their wishes are known and followed
  - Patients may end up with a feeding tube in if in a permanent comatose state so is this what they wanted?

## Matter of Theresa Schiavo

---

- Suffered cardiac arrest at age 27 from potassium imbalance
- Was in PVS since Feb 1990
- After waiting for 6 years to recover her husband petitioned court to remove feeding tube
- Individuals have the right to decide if they want to be kept alive by artificial hydration and nutrition
- Her parents, Schindler family, fought for nine years in court

## Matter of Theresa Schiavo

---

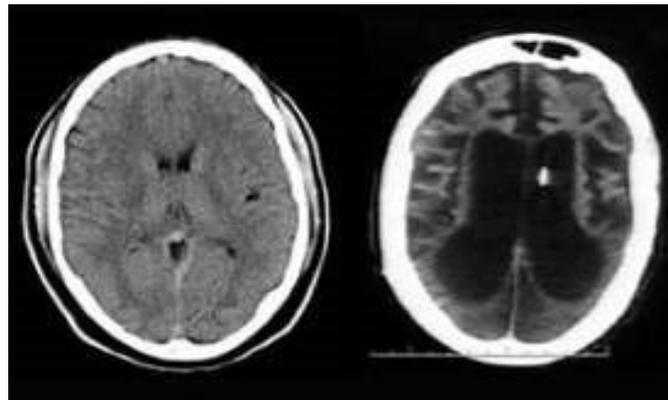
- Evidence supported in court that she had previously stated that she did not want to live that way
- Court ordered removal of her feeding tube
- Feeding tube removed on March 18, 2005
- There was clear and convincing evidence that this is what the patient wanted
- Remember a single piece of paper could have prevented this controversy
- Leaving no written direction left her parents and husband to argue her fate in the courts

# Matter of Theresa Schiavo

---

## Autopsy Report

- Left: CT scan of normal brain
- Right: Schiavo's 2002 CT scan showing loss of brain tissue. The black area is liquid, indicating hydrocephalus ex vacuo. Shows extensive brain damage. Brain half the weight of a normal brain.



## Linda Scheible vs Morse Geriatric Center

---

- Florida nursing home found negligent for failing to honor resident's advance directive for \$150,000 in 2007
  - Granddaughter brought the lawsuit
- Resident died at age 92
  - Madeline Neuman was competent when she entered the nursing home
- She completed a living will saying she did not want CPR and foregoing any life prolonging care or feeding tube, surgery or respirators
- Doctor wrote a DNR order in her chart

## Linda Scheible vs Morse Geriatric Center

---

- When she became unresponsive the LTC facility called paramedics
- They intubated her and did CPR and sent her to the hospital
- Patient had history of seizures and Alzheimer's
- Jurors felt the nursing home lacked procedures for ensuring that the patient wishes would be followed in the event the patient was unable to speak for her or himself
  - Did not have a good way to communicate patient was a DNR

## Glenwood Gardens California

---

- Central California retirement home (independent living facility) refuses to do CPR on a 87 YO patient Lorraine Bayless on May 4, 2013
  - Not LTC or assisted living
- Nurse said facility policy prevented her from giving CPR after she collapsed in the dining room
  - Patient did not have a DNR order
  - Said their policy is to call 911 and wait
  - Family said their were happy with this process
- CMS issues memo that LTC must do CPR unless patient is a DNR October 14, 2013

# Know Who is a DNR and Who is Not

## Nurse refuses to perform CPR despite 911 dispatcher's plea



# Pregnant Patient Declared Brain Dead

## Husband of brain dead woman who sued to have pregnant wife's life support turned off may be forced to pay for her hospital stay

Erick Munoz told Anderson Cooper that he's been getting hospital bills for his wife's care

Marlise Munoz was declared brain-dead after collapsing at her Texas home But she was kept on life support for the sake of her 23-week-old fetus

Recent report said average cost per hospital stay was \$9,700 in 2010

Before her death, Mrs Munoz had made it clear to her husband that she would not want to be kept on life support

Doctors refused to comply with her wishes as Texas law that says life-sustaining treatment cannot be withdrawn from a pregnant patient

Erick Munoz launched a court battle for his wife to be taken off life support

A judge ruled in his favor Friday and Mrs Munoz died last Sunday

Both hospital staff and attorneys agreed the fetus, which had abnormalities, could not have been born alive this early into a pregnancy

By DAILY MAIL REPORTER

PUBLISHED: 21:40 EST, 1 February 2014 | UPDATED: 02:37 EST, 2 February 2014

 Share  Tweet  +1  Share | 149 shares

 92 View comments

After losing his wife and unborn baby daughter, and then spending weeks locked in a legal battle to have the brain-dead woman taken off life support, Erick Munoz may now be forced to pay thousands of dollars in medical bills.

Marlise Munoz was declared legally dead after her paramedic husband found her unconscious at their Texas family home November 26, possibly due to a blood clot. But because she was 14 weeks pregnant, doctors refused to take her off life support under a pro-life state law.

After winning a lengthy court battle, Mrs Munoz's life support was switched off Sunday and both she and the 23-week-old fetus, which was said to have abnormalities because of oxygen deprivation, died at John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth.

Speaking with **CNN's Anderson Cooper** Wednesday, Mr Munoz revealed that he has been receiving hospital bills at his home, although he is not sure at this time what he will be expected to pay for his wife's forced medical care.

## **\$16.5 Million Failure to Honor Advance Directive**

---

- Mother, Ramona Johnson, and daughter, Brenda Young, win \$16.5 million for failing to honor patient's advance directive in Michigan
- Patient had seizure disorder and physician said would get worse
- Patient makes advance directives to give her mother DPOA to stop treatment if she became incapacitated
- Hospital intubated her against their wishes when she arrested and patient was in a coma for two months

## \$16.5 Million for Ignoring Advance Directive

---

- Patient total care and completely disabled
- Michigan case is apparently first of its kind to have a jury award substantial damages
- Many experts are saying this is a new wave of lawsuits if a hospital fails to honor the AD
- Hospitals that do honor them have immunity
- AHA Richard Wade says “it will take us a while to learn to deal with these end of life issues”
- Choices in Dying attorney Anna Moretti says this is a new area of law and the legal theories are still developing

# Living Wills Protect Providers

## Texas case a reminder that living wills protect patients, providers

February 12th, 2014

by [Jenn Riggle](#)

An advance medical directive, or living will, is a written document that gives instructions about the medical treatment a patient can receive if he or she is terminally ill or unconscious.



However, there are times when hospitals choose to ignore them, such as:

- » When a woman is pregnant
- » When family members disagree with advance directives
- » When a physician or facility objects to an advance directive based on reasons of conscience

John Peter Smith Hospital, a 527-bed hospital in Fort Worth, Texas, was at the epicenter of this discussion when it kept Marlise Munoz, a 33-year-old pregnant woman who was declared brain-dead, on life support against her wishes and those of her family.

[More:]

The [American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging](#) notes that a number of myths exist about advanced directives, with the biggest being that they are legally binding and doctors have to follow them. In reality, they give doctors and hospitals immunity if they follow the directives.

[More than half of U.S. states](#), including Texas, do not allow life support to be withdrawn from a pregnant woman, even if she has a living will. It seems only natural that hospitals want to give an infant every possible chance to survive, no matter how

# ABA Myths and Facts about AD



## Myths and Facts About Health Care Advance Directives

[www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/migrated/Commissions/myths\\_fact\\_hc\\_a.d.authcheckdam.pdf](http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/migrated/Commissions/myths_fact_hc_a.d.authcheckdam.pdf)

### Terms to Know

- **Health Care Advance Directive** – The generic term for any document that gives instructions about your health care and/or appoints someone to make medical treatment decisions for you if you cannot make them for yourself. Living Wills and Durable Powers of Attorney for Health Care are both types of Health Care Advance Directives.
- **Living Will** – A document in which you state your wishes about life-sustaining medical treatment if you are terminally ill, permanently unconscious, or in the end-stage of a fatal illness.
- **Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care (or Health Care Proxy)** – A document in which you appoint someone else to make medical treatment decisions for you if you cannot make them for yourself. The person you name is called your agent, proxy, representative, or surrogate. You can also include instructions for decision-making.

### Myth

1. You must have a Living Will to stop treatment near the end of life.
2. You have to use your state's statutory form for your advance directive to be valid.

### Fact

- Treatment can be stopped without a Living Will if everyone involved agrees. However, without some kind of advance directive, decisions may be more difficult and disputes more likely
- The Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care is the more useful and versatile advance directive, because it applies to all health care decisions and empowers the person you name to make decisions for you in the way you want them made.
- Over 2/3 of the adult population have no Living Will or other advance directive.
- Most states do not require a particular form, but do require witnessing or other specific signing formalities.
- Even if your state requires a specific form, doctors still have a legal obligation to respect your treatment wishes, regardless of the form you

## IHI Conversation Starter Kit

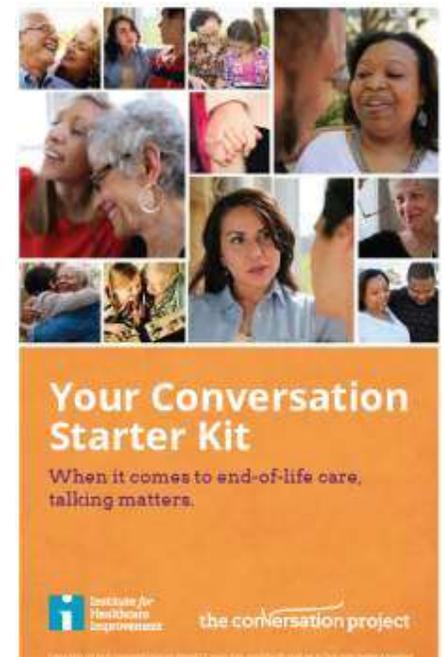
---

- IHI has a free conversation starter kit
- It has been downloaded over 100,000 times
- To help facilitate having the essential conversation about the patient's end of life wishes with their loved ones
- Now patient can type their answers directly into the starter kit and email it to family
- Has helped inspire the conversation between the patient and their loved ones so they know their wishes

# IHI Conversation Starter Kit

---

- 80% of patients said if there were seriously ill they would want to talk to their doctor about end of life
  - But only 7% have reported having an end of life conversation with their doctor
- It's an act of love and kindness for your family
- One patient gathered her family together on her 85<sup>th</sup> birthday to talk about end of life care
- Some patients have made a video for their family



# IHI The Conversation Project

the conversation project

Home Starter Kit Your Stories About Us News Please Contribute

Introduction Get Ready Get Set Go Keep Going

Welcome to the Conversation Starter Kit

It's not easy to talk about how you want the end of your life to be. But it's one of the most important conversations you can have with your loved ones.

This Starter Kit will help you get your thoughts together and then have the conversation.

This isn't about filling out Advance Directives or other medical forms. It's about talking to your loved ones about what you or they want for end-of-life care.

Whether you're getting ready to tell someone what

Here's your portable guide to the conversation.

**NEW!** Download and print your Starter Kit PDF

**NEW!** You can now type your answers directly into the Starter Kit, save your personalized version, finish or change it later, and email it to family and friends.

Also available in Spanish

**NEW!** Descargar e imprimir el Starter Kit en español

**How to use the Starter Kit**

- Move straight through by clicking the arrows at the bottom of the page. Scroll down to the bottom of the page.

# Conversation Starter Kit

---

## Your Conversation Starter Kit

The Conversation Project is dedicated to helping people talk about their wishes for end-of-life care.

We know that no guide and no single conversation can cover all the decisions that you and your family may face. What a conversation can do is provide a shared understanding of what matters most to you and your loved ones. This can make it easier to make decisions when the time comes.

Name:

Date:

## Conversation Starter Kit

---

- The National Survey by the Conversation Project keeps some interesting data
- 60% of people says that making sure their family is not burdened by the tough decisions is important
- 70% of patients would prefer to die at home
- 82% say it is important but only 23% have actually done it
  - California HealthCare Foundation

# End of Life Planning

---



## Doctors Get Paid for End-Of-Life Planning

---

- First develops 2 CPT codes for advanced care planning
- October 30, 2015, a final rule was issued authorizing Medicare to pay doctors for consultation on how they would like to be cared for as they are dying
- CMS adds to physician payment rules January 1, 2016 to discuss end-of-life choices
- Now patients and families can have the discussion of what and when they want treatment before becoming ill or after having received a diagnosis of cancer

## Advanced Care Planning

---

- This regulation creates a benefit to advanced care planning for Medicare patients and is consistent with recommendations from the AMA
- Research showed the value of advanced care planning
- It improved patient outcomes as evidenced by fewer hospitalizations, less intensive treatments, more hospice use
- It also increased the likelihood of the patient dying in their preferred location

# CMS Press Release

The screenshot shows the CMS.gov website header with navigation links: Home | About CMS | Newsroom | FAQs | Archive | Share | Help. Below the header is a search bar with the text "Learn about your healthcare options" and a search button. A horizontal menu contains eight categories: Medicare, Medicaid/CHIP, Medicare-Medicaid Coordination, Private Insurance, Innovation Center, Regulations & Guidance, Research, Statistics, Data & Systems, and Outreach & Education. The breadcrumb trail reads: Home > Newsroom > Media Release Database > Press releases > 2015 Press releases items > CMS Finalizes 2016 Medicare Payment Rules for Physicians, Hospitals & Other Providers. On the left, there is a "Press releases" section with a "Return to Newsroom" link.

## CMS Finalizes 2016 Medicare Payment Rules for Physicians, Hospitals & Other Providers

Date	2015-10-30
Title	CMS Finalizes 2016 Medicare Payment Rules for Physicians, Hospitals & Other Providers
Contact	go.cms.gov/media

### CMS Finalizes 2016 Medicare Payment Rules for Physicians, Hospitals & Other Providers

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued final rules this week detailing how the agency will pay for services provided to beneficiaries in Medicare by physicians and other health care professionals in 2016 that reflects the administration's commitment to quality, value, and patient-centered care. Payment rules for the 2016 calendar year for End-Stage Renal Disease Prospective Payment System, the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System, Home Health Prospective Payment System, and the Physician Fee Schedule were all finalized this week.

"CMS is pleased to implement the final fee schedule since Congress acted to improve patient access by protecting physician payments from annual cuts. These rules continue to advance value-based purchasing and promote program integrity, making Medicare better for consumers, providers, and taxpayers," said CMS Acting Administrator Andy Slavitt. "We received a large number of comments supporting our proposal to allow physicians to bill for advanced care

# Federal Register Nov 16, 2015

---



This document is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on 11/16/2015 and available online at <http://federalregister.gov/a/2015-28005>, and on [FDsys.gov](http://FDsys.gov)

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

42 CFR Parts 405, 410, 411, 414, 425, and 495

[CMS-1631-FC]

RIN 0938-AS40

### Medicare Program; Revisions to Payment Policies under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Revisions to Part B for CY 2016

**AGENCY:** Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS.

**ACTION:** Final rule with comment period.

**SUMMARY:** This major final rule with comment period addresses changes to the physician fee

## Advanced Care Planning Payment

---

- Federal government may reimburse doctors for talking to Medicare patients about their advance care planning including living wills
- AMA Relative Value Scale (RVS) issued recommendation to CMS to include in reimbursement rates and now new codes added
  - It is crucial to get the patient's wishes for treatment to allow patients to control the decision making process
  - Some insurers, like Blue Cross of NY, already reimburse doctors for advance care planning

## End-Of-Life Planning

---

- AMA released CPT codes for advance care planning in 2015 which is a necessary step for Medicare to reimburse end of life discussions
- CMS date of 1-1-2016 for reimbursement
- Billing code is for the first 30 minutes of face to face time with the patient or family to explain and discuss advance directives
  - Can initially do during the welcome to Medicare visit or later when appropriate such as in the annual wellness visit

## End-Of-Life Planning

---

- CMS finalizes payment for end-of-life discussions with patients following the IOM report called Dying in America in 2014
  - IOM now called National Academy of Medicine
  - Advance care planning is the standard of care
- Payment is on two levels: one for the first 30 minutes of consultation and another for each additional 30 minutes after that. CMS said the figures would be approximately \$86 in doctors office and \$75 for additional 30 minutes and \$80 in hospital
- CMS find 55% of LTC patients had ADs in 2014

## Advanced Care Planning ACP

---

- CMS had recognized the importance of advance care planning, having included such planning as one of 19 quality measures physicians must report for the 2015 Physician Quality Reporting System
  - Advance care planning is focused on patient centered care
- Document if living will, DNR, DPOA, POLST, organ donor care etc.
- Chart has a record of patient's preferences, discussion, and questions relative to goals of care, advance directives, and durable power of attorney for health care.

# Doctors Now Will Get Paid for End-Of-Life Planning

## Doctors may get paid for end-of-life

Michael Ollove, Pew/Stateline Staff Writer

6:08 p.m. EDT June 4, 2014

[www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/06/02/stateline-end-of-life/9867615/](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/06/02/stateline-end-of-life/9867615/)



(Photo: Cliff Owen, AP)

f 156  
CONNECT

t 83  
TWEET

in 79  
LINKEDIN

3  
COMMENT

EMAIL

MORE

*Corrections and clarifications: An earlier version of this report mischaracterized how the AMA will issue recommendations. This story also misstated the title for Phillip Rodgers.*

The federal government may reimburse doctors for talking to Medicare patients and their families about "advance care planning," including living wills and end-of-life treatment options — potentially rekindling one of the fiercest storms in the Affordable Care Act debate.

A similar provision was in an early draft of the federal health care law, but in 2009, former Republican vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin took to Facebook to accuse President Barack Obama of proposing "death panels" to determine who deserved life-sustaining medical care. Amid an outcry on the right, the provision was stripped from the legislation.

Now, quietly, the proposal is headed toward reconsideration — this time through a regulatory procedure rather than legislation.

The American Medical Association's Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC) soon will issue recommendations to the federal government regarding the resources doctors expend when they provide advance care planning to patients, or confer with them about the care they would want if they were incapacitated. Every year, the AMA makes such recommendations on a broad range of procedures and services to the

## 23,000 Providers \$93 Million Dollars

---

- Nearly 23,000 providers billed for end of life discussions which was higher than expected
  - Medicare submitted charges of \$93 million dollars and more than 43 million covered by the federal program
  - Nearly 575,000 Medicare patients
  - This was for data for 2016, the **first year** of the program
  - \$86.00 for the first 30 minute office visit and \$75.00 for additional sessions
  - Provides for better informed decision making by patients
  - If they do and don't want CPR if terminal or in a permanent comatose state

# End-Of-Life Advice: More Than 500,000 Chat On Medicare's Dime

Kaiser Health News, August 14, 2017



**Nearly 23,000 providers submitted about \$93 million in charges in 2016. Use was much higher than expected.**



*This article first appeared August 14, 2017 on [Kaiser Health News](#).*

[www.healthleadersmedia.com/physician-leaders/end-life-advice-more-500000-chat-medicare%E2%80%99s-dime?spMailingID=11692666&spUserID=MTY3ODg3NjgwMDU4S0&spJobID=1221244647&spReportId=MTIyMTI0NDY0NwS2#](http://www.healthleadersmedia.com/physician-leaders/end-life-advice-more-500000-chat-medicare%E2%80%99s-dime?spMailingID=11692666&spUserID=MTY3ODg3NjgwMDU4S0&spJobID=1221244647&spReportId=MTIyMTI0NDY0NwS2#)

# FAQ on Billing for Advance Care Planning

---

March 22, 2016

[www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/PhysicianFeeSched/Downloads/FAQ-Advance-Care-Planning.pdf](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/PhysicianFeeSched/Downloads/FAQ-Advance-Care-Planning.pdf)

## Frequently Asked Questions about Billing the Physician Fee Schedule for Advance Care Planning Services

This document answers frequently asked questions about billing advance care planning (ACP) services to the Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) under CPT codes 99497 and 99498 beginning January 1, 2016.

*CPT Code 99497- Advance care planning including the explanation and discussion of advance directives such as standard forms (with completion of such forms, when performed), by the physician or other qualified health care professional; first 30 minutes, face-to-face with the patient, family member(s), and/or surrogate*

*CPT Code 99498- each additional 30 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)*

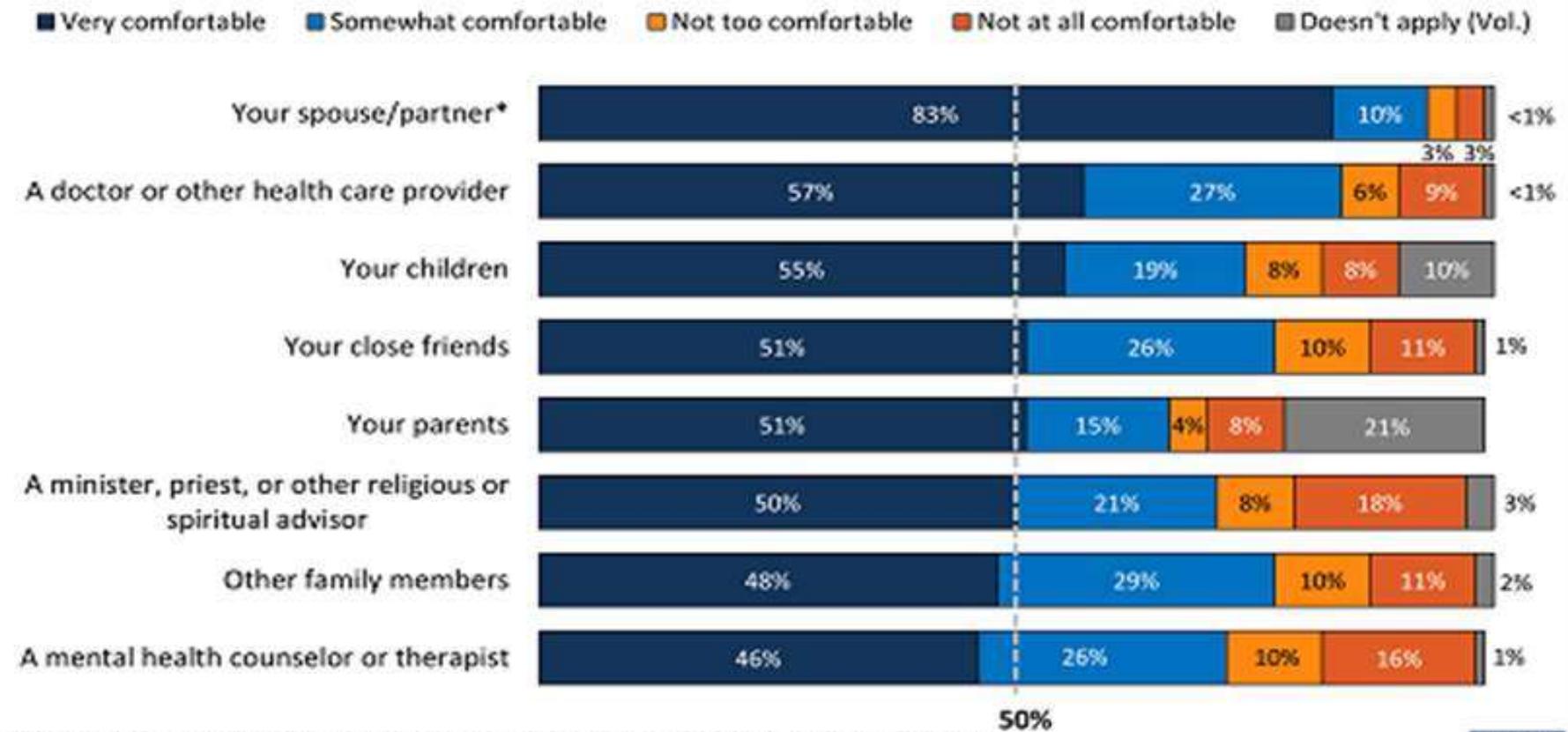
**1. CPT codes 99497 and 99498 are time-based codes (a base code and an add-on code). Are there minimum amounts of time required to bill these codes?**

In the calendar year (CY) 2016 PFS final rule (80 Fed. Reg. 70956), we adopted the CPT codes and CPT provisions regarding the reporting of timed services. Practitioners should consult CPT provisions regarding minimum time required to report timed services. If the required minimum

# Kaiser End-of-Life Care Discussions

## About End-Of-Life Care With Spouse, Ranking Above Others

How comfortable would you be talking about your own end-of-life medical wishes with each of the following?



## Death with Dignity National Center

---

- Oregon Death with Dignity law has been in effect since 1997
  - Physicians can prescribe lethal doses to terminally ill patients but not administer
  - Only 1,327 patients have requested prescriptions and 859 used them
- Washington and Vermont has passed similar laws
- Courts in Montana and New Mexico has allowed physician assisted suicide for terminally ill patients
- In 2015, 26 states and DC are considering legislation on end-of-life issues

# Death with Dignity National Center

DEATH WITH DIGNITY NATIONAL CENTER

Who We Are | Blog | Research Center | Activists & Advocates | Patients & Families | Health Care Providers | Support Us | Donate | Press Room

## Death with Dignity Around the U.S.

ShareThis 518 | Like 1.7k | +1 23 | Tweet 94 | Print

*Current as of July 10, 2015*

State legislators around the country look to the Oregon Death with Dignity Act as a guide for good reason. Oregon's law has been in effect since 1997, and the years of data show the law is safe and utilized the way it's intended with no evidence of a slippery slope for vulnerable Oregonians. Our win in Washington in 2008 and our 2013 victory in Vermont demonstrate this solid legislation stands the test of time and serves as the model for all states. After all, with public support hovering between 68 and 74 percent and with 17 years of data demonstrating Death with Dignity laws work as intended with no abuse, there is no rational reason for a legislator to oppose Death with Dignity policy reform.

While many bills are drafted each year, the majority fail. Some consider it a failure most bills don't end up becoming law, but we view these bills as a testament to the growing support of the Death with Dignity movement, the will of the public, and the strength of the Oregon, Washington, and Vermont model legislation. Below is a summary of the status of current death with dignity-related legislation in the US and what we see coming in the months ahead as the 2015 legislative session progresses. In all, 25 legislatures plus the District of Columbia will have considered Death with Dignity in the 2015 legislative session (legislatures where Death with Dignity will have been introduced for the first time in history this session are marked with \*).

[www.deathwithdignity.org/advocates/national](http://www.deathwithdignity.org/advocates/national)

State: **Ontario**  
Death with Dignity law: Yes - Court Decision / No - Law

### Make a Donation

Your donation helps us continue to advocate for the right of the terminally ill to die with dignity.

[Donate Today](#)

**Stay Connected**

Sign up for the latest news and information about Death with Dignity.

email address \*

zip code \*

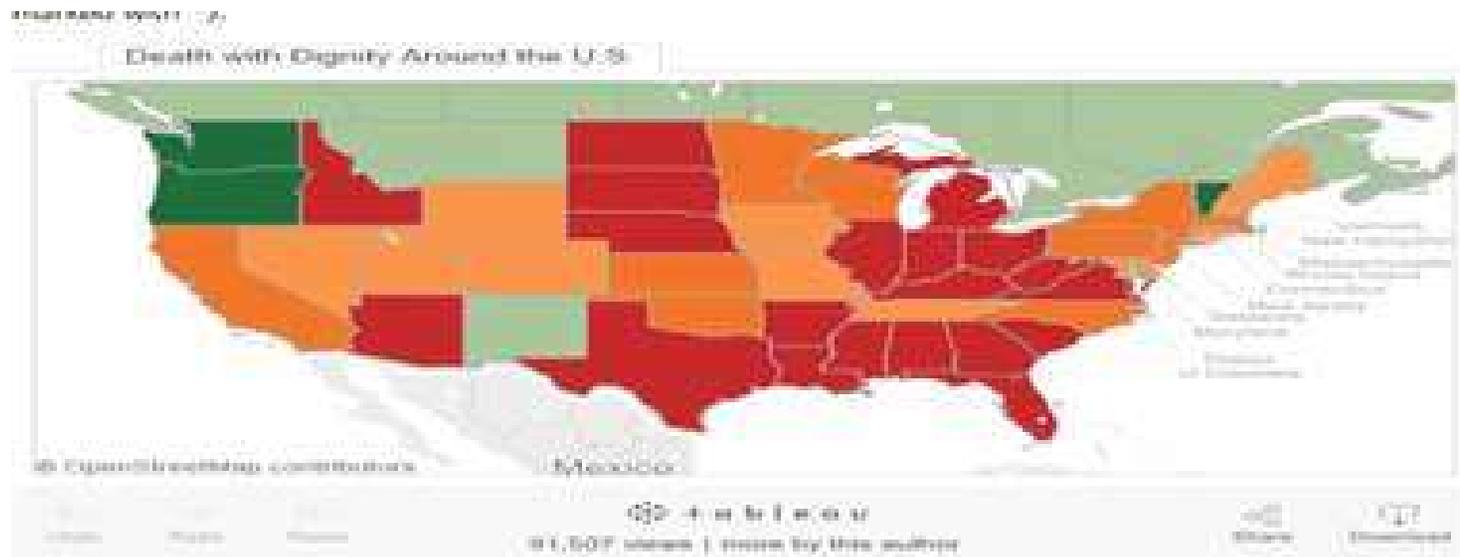
[Sign me up!](#)

More ways to stay in touch:

### About Death with Dignity

The greatest human freedom is to live, and die, according

# Has List of All States and Proposed Changes



## Map Legend

- States with a Death with Dignity law
- States where Death with Dignity is legal by court decision
- States considering Death with Dignity legislation this session
- States that considered but did not pass Death with Dignity legislation this session
- States with no legislative activity around Death with Dignity

## Resources

---

- List of Legal Cases Involving Right to Die in the United States at <http://www.rbs2.com/rtd.pdf>
- Physician assisted suicide website at [www.willamette.edu/wucl/pas](http://www.willamette.edu/wucl/pas)
- Information on Schiavo case at <http://www6.miami.edu/ethics/schiavo/timeline.htm> and <http://abstractappeal.com/schiavo/infopage.html>

# Federal Laws on Advance Directive

## Patient Self Determination Act or PSDA



## Definition of Advance Directive

---

“Advance directive means a written instrument, such as a living will or durable power of attorney for health care, recognized under state law (whether statutory or as recognized by the courts of the State), related to the provision of health care when the individual is incapacitated.”

- Examples: Living will, DPOA, combined advance directives, visitation, DNR, organ donor card, patient advocate/support, and mental health declaration

## **Patient Self Determination Act**

---

- Purpose of the federal law (PSDA)
- To inform patients of their rights regarding decisions toward their own medical care
- To ensure that these rights are communicated by the health care provider
  - Patients should give copies to their physician, hospital when admitted and family members so they know their wishes
- To provide a written summary of their health care decision making rights on admission
- These rights ensure that those of the patient dictate their future care should they become incapacitated

# Patient Self Determination Act

---

- **42 USC Section 1395 (a)(1)(Q)** and SSA 1866, Section 4206 (b)(1) of OBRA 90, 42 CFR 489.102
- Applies to Medicare certified hospitals, skilled nursing homes, home health, hospice, and HMO
- Passed by Congress in 1990 to require above organizations to give patients information on state laws regarding advance directives such as living wills or DPOA
- Purpose of law is to ensure patients are informed of their right to make advance directives and based on principles of informed consent
- Law was effective December 1, 1991 and amended July 27, 1995 (FR Vol 60, June 23, 1995) and copy is available on website<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.findlaw.com/casecode/uscodes/>

# Patient Self Determination Act

---

- Must provide written information to patients on their decision making rights
- Provide written information to patients on organization's implementation of these rights
- Document in medical record whether patient has one
- Ensure compliance with requirements of state law on advance directives
- Provide for education of staff concerning its P&P and community education on advance directives
- Remember the CMS Hospital CoPs on patient rights which discuss patient's right to have advance directives followed

# Patient Self Determination Act

---

- Need written P&P regarding how the hospital or facility is implementing each of their rights
- Including clear and precise limitation if the provider cannot implement an AD on the basis of conscience
- At a minimum, need to clarify any differences between institution wide (the hospital) and those raised by individual physicians
- Identify state legal authority permitting such objections and describe range of medical conditions affected by conscientious objection
- Can't discriminate against patient if they have or not

# FEDERAL PATIENT SELF-DETERMINATION ACT FINAL REGULATIONS

## PART 489-PROVIDER AND SUPPLIER AGREEMENTS

The authority citation for part 489 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Secs. 1102, 1861, 1864, 1866, 1867, and 1871 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1302, 1395x, 1395aa, 1395cc, 1395dd, and 1395hh) and sec. 602 (k) of Pub. L. 9621 (42 U.S.C. 1395ww note).

### **Subpart I Advance Directives**

#### **Section 489.100 Definitions**

For the purposes of this part “advance directive” means a written instruction, such as a living will or durable power of attorney for health care, recognized under state law (whether statutory or as recognized by the courts of the State), relating to the provision of health care when the individual is incapacitated.

#### **Section 489.102 Requirements for providers**

- (a) Hospitals, rural primary care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, home health agencies, providers of home health-care (and for Medicaid purposes, providers of personal care services), and hospices must maintain written policies and procedures concerning advance directives with respect to all adult individuals receiving medical care by or through the provider and are required to:
- (1) Provide written information to such individuals concerning—
    - (i) An individual’s rights under State law (whether statutory or recognized by courts of the State) to make decisions concerning such medical care, including the right to accept or refuse medical or surgical treatment and the right to formulate, at the individual’s option, advance directives. Providers are permitted to contract with other entities to furnish this information but are still legally responsible for ensuring that the requirements of this section are met. Providers are to update and disseminate amended information as soon as possible, but no later than 90 days from the effective date of the changes to State law; and
    - (ii) The written policies of the provider or organization respecting the implementation of such rights, including a clear and precise statement of limitation if the provider cannot implement an advance directive on the basis of conscience. At a minimum, a provider’s statement of limitation should:
      - (A) Clarify any differences between institution wide conscience objections and those that may be raised by individual physicians;
      - (B) Identify the state legal authority permitting such objections.
      - (C) Describe the range of medical conditions or procedures affected by the conscientious objection.

# Consider Having A Form

## PATIENT SELF-DETERMINATION ACT

According to the Patient Self-Determination Act (a federal law), every adult inpatient must receive a copy of the brochure "Your Right To Make Decisions About Medical Treatment" and also be asked the question "Do you have an Advance Directive"? (See reverse side for definitions.) If the patient does have an Advance Directive, a copy must be requested for the chart. This form is to be completed by the staff member who is admitting the patient.

**PLEASE GIVE THE PATIENT / PATIENT'S SIGNIFICANT OTHER A COPY OF "YOUR RIGHT TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT MEDICAL TREATMENT."**

1. Does the patient have an Advance Directive?  
Yes  \* No  Unable to determine

(\* If No, ask patient if he/she would like a copy of an Advance Directive.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Date Signature

2. If the patient has brought an Advance Directive with them, please copy and file the copies in the Patient Rights section of the patient's medical record.
- Document your department name (i.e. Admitting, or specific patient care area), sign and date indicating you photocopied the forms.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Date Signature

3. If the patient states he/she has an Advance Directive, but did not bring it in, please ask him/her to write / provide the name of their Healthcare Surrogate Decision Maker on his form.

- Please write name and telephone number of Surrogate Decision Maker

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Surrogate Decision Maker Telephone Number

4. If discussed with a person other than the patient, indicate name and relationship:

\_\_\_\_\_

## Federal Laws

---

- Can get off internet copies of all federal laws at no expense at [www.thomas.gov](http://www.thomas.gov) or federal regulations at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)
- Can also find copies of federal bills
- Another good resource is [www.findlaw.com](http://www.findlaw.com)
- You can sign up to get the federal register sent to your computer daily at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>
- CFR is now free off the internet at [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov) (Title 42 is public health)

# Subscribe to the Federal Register



## FEDERAL REGISTER

The Daily Journal of the United States Government

[www.federalregister.gov/my/sign\\_up](http://www.federalregister.gov/my/sign_up)

Sign in

Sign up

Reset Password

Email\*

Password\*

Password confirmation\*

sdill1@columbus.rr.com

Did you

Sign up

# Best Website to Get Copy of Federal Law



[Home](#)  
[gpo.gov](#)  
[govinfo.gov](#)

[Browse / Search Previous](#)

## e-CFR Navigation Aids

[Browse](#)  
[Simple Search](#)

### Advanced Search

- [— Boolean](#)
- [— Proximity](#)

[Search History](#)  
[Search Tips](#)  
[Corrections](#)  
[Latest Updates](#)  
[User Info](#)  
[FAQs](#)  
[Agency List](#)  
[Incorporation By Reference](#)

Electronic Code of Federal Regulations  
*e-CFR*

## Electronic Code of Federal Regulations

e-CFR data is current as of **December 7, 2017**

### USER NOTICE

The Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (e-CFR) is a currently updated version of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). It is not an official legal edition of the CFR. The e-CFR is an editorial compilation of CFR material and *Federal Register* amendments produced by the National Archives and Records Administration's Office of the Federal Register (OFR) and the Government Publishing Office. The OFR updates the material in the e-CFR on a daily basis. The current update status appears at the top of all e-CFR web pages [More](#).

**Browse:** Select a title from the list below, then press "Go".

[Need assistance?](#)

[www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov)

tml

# Psychiatric Advance Directives

The screenshot shows the homepage of the National Resource Center on Psychiatric Advance Directives (NRC-PAD). The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Who We Are, Glossary, PAD Stories, and Contact Us. A 'NEWS' section on the right highlights a featured state action on PADs in Virginia and featured videos by Delaney Ruston, MD. The main header features the NRC-PAD logo and a fountain pen graphic. A left sidebar contains a menu with categories like Home, Getting Started, State by State Info, FAQs, Educational Webcasts, Links, Current Research, In the News, Legal Issues, Search, and Feedback. The main content area has a 'Home' link and a welcome message. It is divided into three columns: 'PATIENTS AND CONSUMERS' with a testimonial and a 'More details...' link; 'HEALTH AND LEGAL PROFESSIONALS' with a description of resources and a 'Find out more...' link; and 'FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS' with a description of resources and a 'More details...' link. A 'PAD STORIES' section includes a testimonial and a 'Read More...' link. A 'State-by-State Information' section features a map of the United States and a description of psychiatric advance directives. The website URL <http://www.nrc-pad.org/> is displayed at the bottom right.

Home | Who We Are | Glossary | PAD Stories | Contact Us

**NRC-PAD**  
National Resource Center on  
Psychiatric Advance Directives

NEWS

Featured State action on PADs: Virginia's Health Care Decisions Act

Featured videos on PADs by Delaney Ruston, MD, documentary filmmaker

Home

Welcome to the National Resource Center on Psychiatric Advance Directives

**PATIENTS AND CONSUMERS**

Find out what you need to know about preparing your own psychiatric advance directive in your state using this simple step-by-step guide.

[More details....](#)

**HEALTH AND LEGAL PROFESSIONALS**

Access practical, clinically focused information as well as comprehensive legal resources to help you make decisions when you encounter psychiatric advance directives in practice.

[Find out more...](#)

**FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

Help a family member with mental illness prepare for a psychiatric crisis using advance instructions or health care power of attorney documents.

[More details...](#)

**PAD STORIES**

*"This time, with a PAD, I did not receive any treatments that I did not want. They were very respectful. I really felt like the hospital took better care of me because I had my PAD. In fact, I think it's the best care that I've ever received."*

[Read More...](#)

**State-by-State Information**

Psychiatric advance directives are relatively new legal instruments that may be used to document a competent person's specific instructions or preferences regarding future mental health treatment. Psychiatric advance directives can be used to plan for the possibility that someone may lose capacity to give or withhold informed consent to treatment during acute episodes of psychiatric illness.

<http://www.nrc-pad.org/>

# State by State Information

Home | Who We Are | Glossary | PAD Stories | Contact Us

## NRC·PAD National Resource Center on Psychiatric Advance Directives

NEWS

Featured State action on PADs: Virginia's Health Care Decisions Act

Featured videos on PADs by Delaney Ruston, MD, documentary filmmaker

Home • State by State Map

### NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER ON PSYCHIATRIC ADVANCE DIRECTIVES - STATE BY STATE MAP

#### State by State Map



Click state to view statute information.

Psychiatric advance directives are relatively new legal instruments that may be used to document a competent person's specific instructions or preferences regarding future mental health treatment. Psychiatric advance directives can be used to plan for the possibility that someone may lose capacity to give or withhold informed consent to treatment during acute episodes of psychiatric illness.

Almost all states permit advance directives for healthcare, which can be used to direct at least some forms of psychiatric treatment. In the past decade, twenty-five states have adopted specific psychiatric advance directives statutes.

Home

- Getting Started
- State by State Info
- FAQs
- Educational Webcasts
- Links
- Current Research
- In the News
- Legal Issues
- Search
- Feedback

**PAD STORIES**

*"This time, with a PAD, I did not receive any treatments that I did not want. They were very respectful. I really felt like the hospital took better care of me because I had my PAD. In fact, I think it's the best care that I've ever received."*

[Read More...](#)

# Caring Connections Download State AD

National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization  
**CaringInfo**

[www.caringinfo.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1](http://www.caringinfo.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1) text size:  A www.nhpco.org [About Us](#) [Contact Us](#) [Donat](#)

[Home](#) [Advance Care Planning](#) [Caregiving](#) [Hospice and Palliative Care](#) [Grief & Loss](#) [Resources](#)

Search



CaringInfo provides information and support for anyone who is planning ahead, caregiving, living with a serious illness or grieving a loss.

[Advance Care Planning](#) [Caregiving](#) [Hospice & Palliative Care](#) [Grief & Loss](#)

[¿Hablas español?](#) [Download Free Information](#)

[moments of life.org](#)  
made possible by hospice

Showing the world that hospice is about more than care for the dying.

[Learn more](#)

[Download your state specific Advance Directive](#)

# Caring Connections Download State AD

The screenshot shows the CaringInfo website interface. At the top left is the logo for the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) and the text 'CaringInfo'. To the right is the URL 'www.caringinfo.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3289' and a text size control. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: Home, Advance Care Planning, Caregiving, Hospice and Palliative Care, Grief & Loss, and Resources. A search bar is located on the right side of the page. The main content area features a large image of a couple walking on a pier by the water. Below the image is a breadcrumb trail: 'Advance Care Planning > Advance Directives'. The main heading is 'Advance Directives', followed by a list of links: 'What are Advance Directives?', 'Selecting Your Healthcare Agent', 'Download Your State's Advance Directives', 'Preparing Your Advance Directives', and 'Storing Your Advance Directives'. The primary call to action is 'Download Your State's Advance Directives'. Below this, a paragraph states: 'CaringInfo provides free advance directives and instructions for each state that can be opened as a PDF (Portable Document Format) file.' A second paragraph explains the copyright and usage permissions. On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar with a search bar and a promotional box for 'moments of life.org' with a 'Learn more' button. Below that is a large blue button that says 'Download your state specific Advance Directive'.

National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization  
**CaringInfo**

www.caringinfo.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3289 text size: - A +  
www.nhpco.org About Us Contact Us Donat

Home Advance Care Planning Caregiving Hospice and Palliative Care Grief & Loss Resources

Search



Advance Care Planning > Advance Directives

**Advance Directives**  
[What are Advance Directives?](#)  
[Selecting Your Healthcare Agent](#)  
[Download Your State's Advance Directives](#)  
[Preparing Your Advance Directives](#)  
[Storing Your Advance Directives](#)

**Download Your State's Advance Directives**

CaringInfo provides free advance directives and instructions for each state that can be opened as a PDF (Portable Document Format) file.

These materials are copyrighted by CaringInfo. Permission is granted to download a single copy of any portion of these texts. Use by individuals for personal and family benefit is specifically authorized and encouraged. Further copies or publication are prohibited without express written permission.

moments of **life**.org  
made possible by hospice

Showing the world that hospice is about more than care for the dying.

Learn more

Download your state specific Advance Directive

# State Specific Advance Directives

---

Click on the state below to get your state's advance directives and instructions.

**If you have any legal questions regarding these documents, we recommend contacting your state attorney general's office or an attorney.**

[Alabama](#)

[Alaska](#)

[Arizona](#)

[Arkansas](#)

[California](#)

[Colorado](#)

[Connecticut](#)

[Delaware](#)

[District of Columbia](#)

[Florida](#)

[Georgia](#)

[Hawaii](#)

[Idaho](#)

[Illinois](#)

[Indiana](#)

[Iowa](#)

[Kansas](#)

[Kentucky](#)

[Louisiana](#)

[Maine](#)

[Maryland](#)

## Discuss End of Life Issues with Patients

---

- 25 years since passage of PSDA and article finds that patients rarely discuss end of life wishes with their doctors
- More than 88% of physicians would opt for DNR if terminal
- However, only 50% of terminal patients have ADs
- National teaching program “Respecting Choices” aims to change this
- Teaches providers to ask patients about their choices and educate them on their options
  - May 22, 2014 Advance Directives: Physician Attitudes Differ From Actions, AGS 2014 Annual Meeting

# Advance Directives: Physician Attitudes Differ From Actions

Caroline Helwick

May 22, 2014

5 comments



Print



Email

## EDITORS' RECOMMENDATIONS



**End-of-Life Discussion Guide Aids Physician-Patient Planning**



**End-of-Life Wishes: Lack of Communication Persists**

**Patients Frequently Change Advance Directives at End of Life**

## Topic Alert

Receive an email from Medscape whenever new articles on this topic are available.

 [Add Palliative Care to My Topic Alert](#)

## DRUG & REFERENCE INFORMATION

**Palliative Care in the Acute Care Setting**

**Palliative Care of the Patient With Advanced Gynecologic Cancer**

ORLANDO, Florida — Physicians continue to provide high-intensity care for terminally ill patients but personally choose to forego such care at the end of life, according to a survey of young physicians.

"There is a striking difference between the end-of-life care that doctors choose for themselves and the care they provide to their patients," said lead investigator Vyjeyanthi Periyakoil, MD, from Stanford University in Palo Alto, California.

"The data are sobering," she added. "It appears that patients don't get preference-sensitive care."

Her team conducted the survey to determine what influences attitudes about advance directives, and whether attitudes have changed since the passage of the Patient Self-Determination Act in 1990.

She presented the results during the plenary session here at the American Geriatrics Society 2014 Annual Scientific Meeting.

## Doctors Prefer to "Die Gently"

Of the 1081 survey respondents, 60% were 30 to 39 years of age. All were medical subspecialists finishing their clinical training at 2 academic hospitals. All respondents completed a Web-based form and a 14-item attitude survey on advance directives from March to

# Respecting Choices

## Respecting Choices®



### About Respecting Choices®

*Respecting Choices® is owned and operated by Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation located in La Crosse, Wisconsin.*

#### **Mission**

To assist organizations, communities, and individuals worldwide in implementing advance care planning practices that support informed healthcare decisions.

# Respecting Choices

Respecting Choices®  
PERSON-CENTERED CARE

Give Us a Call:  
(608) 473-1025

I am looking for...



Respecting Choices has moved! Visit our new website.

[www.respectingchoices.org](http://www.respectingchoices.org)



## Learn More

[Learn how to become RC certified](#)

[Take RC online curriculum](#)

[Shop Respecting Choices products](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

# CMS HOSPITAL CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION (COPS)

**What PPS Hospitals Need to Know about the CMS interpretive guidelines on advance directives**



## CMS Hospital CoP

---

- CMS hospital CoP effective in 1986 and manual updated more frequently now
  - CMS has a section on patient rights which contains the requirements for advance directives
  - CMS changes AD interpretive guidelines effective 12-2-2011
- CAH hospitals have a separate CoP (Appendix W, Standards C)
  - Rewrote the advance directive standards at tag 151 effective January 31, 2014
  - All manuals available on the CMS website<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/som107\\_Appendicestoc.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/som107_Appendicestoc.pdf)

# Location of CMS Hospital CoP Manual

## Medicare State Operations Manual Appendix

### Email questions to [hospitals.cms.hhs.gov](mailto:hospitals.cms.hhs.gov)

- Each Appendix is a separate file that can be accessed directly from the SOM Appendices Table of Contents, as applicable.
- The appendices are in PDF format, which is the format generally used in the IOM to display files. Click on the red button in the 'Download' column to see any available file in PDF.
- To return to this page after opening a PDF file on your desktop, use the browser "back" button. This is because closing the file usually will also close most browsers

CMS CoP Manuals are now located at

[www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/som107\\_Appendixtoc.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/som107_Appendixtoc.pdf)

App. No.	Description	PDF File
A	Hospitals	 <a href="#">2,185 KB</a>
AA	Psychiatric Hospitals	 <a href="#">606 KB</a>



# CoP Manual Also Called SOM

---

## **State Operations Manual Appendix A - Survey Protocol, Regulations and Interpretive Guidelines for Hospitals**

**Table of Contents**  
*(Rev. 151, 11-20-15)*

[www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/  
downloads/som107\\_Appen  
dixtoc.p](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/som107_Appendixtoc.p)

### Transmittals for Appendix A

### Survey Protocol

#### Introduction

Task 1 - Off-Site Survey Preparation

Task 2 - Entrance Activities

Task 3 - Information Gathering/Investigation

Task 4 - Preliminary Decision Making and Analysis of Findings

Task 5 - Exit Conference

Task 6 – Post-Survey Activities

#### Psychiatric Hospital Survey Module

#### Psychiatric Unit Survey Module

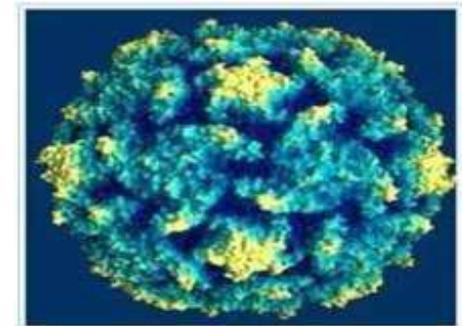
#### Rehabilitation Hospital Survey Module

#### Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit Survey Module

#### Hospital Swing-Bed Survey Module

**Regulations and Interpretive Guidelines**

Email questions  
[hospitalscg@cms.hhs  
.gov](mailto:hospitalscg@cms.hhs.gov)



# Also Called State Operations Manual or SOM

## **State Operations Manual Appendix W - Survey Protocol, Regulations and Interpretive Guidelines for Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) and Swing-Beds in CAHs**

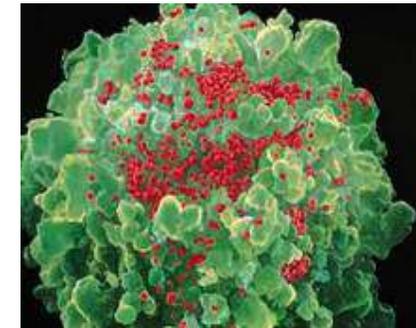
*(Rev. 149, 10-09-15)*

### Transmittals for Appendix W

#### INDEX

#### Survey Protocol

- Introduction
- Regulatory and Policy Reference
- Tasks in the Survey Protocol
- Survey Team
- Task 1 - Off-Site Survey Preparation
- Task 2 - Entrance Activities
- Task 3 - Information Gathering/Investigation
- Task 4 - Preliminary Decision Making and Analysis of Findings
- Task 5 - Exit Conference
- Task 6 - Post-Survey Activities



#### Regulations and Interpretive Guidelines for CAHs

§485.608 Condition of Participation: Compliance With Federal, State, and Local Laws and Regulations

# CMS Updated Website [www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov)



# CMS Survey and Certification Website

The screenshot shows the CMS.gov website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About CMS, Careers, Newsroom, FAQ, Archive, and social media icons for Share, Help, Email, and Print. The CMS.gov logo and tagline 'Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' are on the left. A search bar is on the right. Below the navigation bar is a horizontal menu with categories: Medicare, Medicaid/CHIP, Medicare-Medicaid Coordination, Insurance Oversight, Innovation Center, Regulations, Guidance & Standards, Research, Statistics, Data & Systems, and Outreach & Education. The breadcrumb trail reads: CMS Home > Medicare > Survey & Certification - General Information > Policy & Memos to States and Regions. The main content area is titled 'Policy & Memos to States and Regions' and includes a 'UPDATED' badge. The text describes CMS Survey and Certification memoranda, guidance, clarifications and instructions to State Survey Agencies and CMS Regional Offices. A 'Select From The Following Options:' section contains several filters: 'Show all items' (selected), 'Show only (select one or more options)', 'Show only items whose [ ] is within the past [ ]', 'Show only items whose Fiscal Year is [ ]', and 'Show only items containing the following word [ ]'. A 'Show Items' button is at the bottom. A URL is displayed: www.cms.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/PMSR/list.asp#TopOfPage. On the left, a sidebar menu for 'Survey & Certification - General Information' lists various sub-sections, with 'Policy & Memos to States and Regions' highlighted.

# CMS Survey Memos

## Policy & Memos to States and Regions

CMS Survey and Certification memoranda, guidance, clarifications and instructions to State Survey Agencies and CMS Regional Offices.

<u>Title</u> ⌵	<u>Memo #</u> ⌵	<u>Posting Date</u> ⌵	<u>Fiscal Year</u> ⌵
<a href="#">Implementation Issues, Long-Term Care Regulatory Changes: Substandard Quality of Care (SQC) and Clarification of Notice before Transfer or Discharge Requirements</a>	17-27-NH	2017-05-12	2017
<a href="#">Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)</a>	17-28-PRTF	2017-05-12	2017
<a href="#">Notice of Proposed Regulation Changes to Requirements Related to Survey Team Composition and Investigation of Complaints</a>	17-26-NH	2017-04-28	2017
<a href="#">Electronic Staffing Submission - Payroll-Based Journal Update</a>	17-25-NH	2017-04-21	2017
<a href="#">Notice of Proposed Regulation Changes for Accrediting Organizations (AOs) Transparency and Termination Notices</a>	17-24-ALL	2017-04-14	2017

## Number of Deficiencies

---

- CMS issued its first deficiency report in March 22, 2013 and updates data quarterly
- Advance directive is in patient rights sections which is the most problematic for hospitals
- October, 2017 the number advance directive deficiencies is **1,135**
- Reports lists the name and address of all hospitals receiving deficiencies

# Updated Deficiency Data Reports

The screenshot shows the CMS.gov website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About CMS, Newsroom Center, FAQs, Archive, Share, Help, Email, and Print. Below this is the CMS.gov logo and the text 'Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services'. A search bar is present with the text 'Learn about your healthcare options' and a 'Search' button. A horizontal menu contains eight categories: Medicare, Medicaid/CHIP, Medicare-Medicaid Coordination, Private Insurance, Innovation Center, Regulations and Guidance, Research, Statistics, Data and Systems, and Outreach and Education. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: Home > Medicare > Survey & Certification - Certification & Compliance > Hospitals. On the left is a sidebar menu with 'Survey & Certification - Certification & Compliance' highlighted, and a list of sub-links including Ambulatory Surgery Centers, Community Mental Health Centers, Critical Access Hospitals, End Stage Renal Disease Facility Providers, Home Health Providers, Hospices, Hospitals, Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICFs/IID), Clinical Laboratories, Life Safety Code Requirements, Nursing Homes, Five-Star Quality Rating System, Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Providers, Psychiatric Hospitals, and Outpatient Rehabilitation. The main content area is titled 'Hospitals' and contains the following text: 'This page provides basic information about being certified as a Medicare and/or Medicaid hospital provider and includes links to applicable laws, regulations, and compliance information.' It then defines a hospital as an institution primarily engaged in providing, by or under the supervision of physicians, inpatient diagnostic and therapeutic services or rehabilitation services. It notes that critical access hospitals are certified under separate standards, and psychiatric hospitals are subject to additional regulations. The State Survey Agency evaluates and certifies each participating hospital as a whole for compliance with Medicare requirements. It also states that under Medicare provider-based rules, a hospital can have multiple inpatient campuses and outpatient locations, but only one part can be certified. Psychiatric hospitals participating in Medicare as a Distinct Part Psychiatric hospital are not required to participate in their entirety. However, certain parts are not considered parts of the hospital for compliance evaluation, including: components certified as other providers or suppliers (e.g., Skilled Nursing Facility, Home Health Agency, Rural Health Clinic, or Hospice); excluded residential, custodial, and non-service units; and physician offices located in space owned by the hospital but not functioning as hospital outpatient services departments. Accredited hospitals can substitute accreditation under that program for survey by the State Survey Agency. Surveyors assess compliance with Medicare Conditions of Participation (CoP) for all services, areas, and locations covered by the hospital's provider agreement. Finally, it notes that although the survey generally occurs during daytime working hours (Monday through Friday), surveyors may conduct

[www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/CertificationandCompliance/Hospitals.html](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/CertificationandCompliance/Hospitals.html)

## Advanced Directive Deficiencies October 2017

Section	Tag Number	Number
Advance Directives and Notice of Patient Rights	116/117	363
Advance Directive & Care Planning	130	140
Advanced Directives, Consent, Decision Making	131 & 132	511
Advance Directive & Visitation	216	21
Advance Directive & Transfer	837	100
Total		1,135

## Surveyor Conducting Interviews

---

- CMS CoP also has information on advance directives in the first section on introduction to the survey process
- CoP directs the surveyor on topics for the patient or family interview and includes the topic of advance directives
- CoP manual provides directions to the surveyor during the document review session and states to review the medical record for evidence of advance directives
  - CMS has advance directives standards addressed in tags 117, 130, 131, 132, 216 and 837

## Notify Patients of Their Rights 117

---

- A hospital must inform the patient, or their representative, of their rights in advance of providing care
- Provide rights in a manner the patient can understand
  - Issue of low health literacy and 20% of patients read at a fifth grade level so make sure it is understandable
- The issue of limited English proficiency is important so use an interpreter when appropriate
  - CMS says it can refer non-compliance to the Office for Civil Rights

## Notify Patients of Their Rights 117

---

- Discusses extending patient rights to patient representatives
- Reiterated many of the patient rights like notice of patient right must be given to the patient or their representative
- Hospital are expected to take reasonable steps to determine patient wishes regarding designation of a representative
- Discusses the rights of the patient representative who steps into the shoes of the patient when the patient is incapacitated

# Who is a Patient Representative?

---

- Parent of a minor child
- Guardian
- DPOA of a patient who is incapacitated
- Support person/visitation advance directive who is also referred to as the patient advocate by the Joint Commission
- If patient has no advance directives on file it can be whoever shows up and claims to be the patient representative like the spouse, same sex partner, friend, etc.

## Patient Representative 117

---

- If the patient is competent (not incapacitated) can still orally or in writing designate another to be their representative
  - Hospital must give this person **and** the patient the required notice of patient rights
  - Speaker suggest hospital may want to get this in writing
  - The explicit designation of a representative takes precedent over any non-designated relationship
  - This continues through out the admission or outpatient treatment

## Patient Representative 117

---

- If the patient is not competent (incapacitated) then when an individual presents with an AD or durable power of attorney (DPOA) then hospital proceeds with its P&P
  - This designation of a representative takes precedence over any non-designated relationship and continues throughout stay
  - Unless the patient ceases to be incapacitated and especially withdrawals this
  - CMS says can be done orally or in writing
  - Speaker suggests hospitals get it in writing

## Patient Representative 117

---

- If not competent and unable to state wishes and no ADs and person asserts is spouse or domestic partner (including same sex partners), parent of minor child, or other family member, hospital is expected to accept without demanding supporting documentation
  - However, if more than one person claims to be the patient representation (PR) then appropriate to ask for documentation to support their claim
  - Such as proof of marriage, domestic partnership, joint household, co-mingled finances etc

## The Exact Language 117

---

- In the case of a patient who is incapacitated, when an individual presents the hospital with an advance directive, medical power of attorney or similar document executed by the patient and designating an individual to make medical decisions for the patient when incapacitated, then the hospital must, when presented with the document, provide the required notice of its policies to the designated representative. The explicit designation of a representative takes precedence over any non-designated relationship and continues throughout the patient's inpatient stay or outpatient visit, unless the patient ceases to be incapacitated and expressly withdraws the designation, either orally or in writing.
- **When a patient is incapacitated** or otherwise unable to communicate his or her wishes, there is no written advance directive on file or presented, and an individual asserts that he or she is the patient's spouse, domestic partner (whether or not formally established and including a same-sex domestic partner), parent (including someone who has stood in loco parentis for the patient who is a minor child), or other family member and thus is the patient's representative, the hospital is expected to accept this

## Patient Representative 117

---

- **State law** can specify a procedure for determining who is a patient representative if patient is incapacitated
- A refusal by the hospital of a person requested to be treated as a patient representative must be documented in the medical record along with a specific basis for the refusal

## Patient Rights 131

---

- Patient, or their representative, has a right to make informed decisions regarding his or her care
- This includes the right to be informed of their status and to request or refuse care
- A patient has the right to delegate informed decision making to another person
- Hospitals need to take reasonable steps to determine patient's wishes concerning designation of a representative

## Consent Informed Decisions 131

---

- Patient is not competent and an individual presents the hospital with an advance directive, medical power of attorney (DPOA) or similar document
  - Then informed consent is obtained by this person
- Not competent and no advance directive, then the person who asserts is the spouse, domestic partner (including same sex partner), parent of child, or family member decides and thus is the patient representative
  - Can't demand documentation unless two people claim to be the patient representative

## Patient Rights 131

---

- The right to make informed decisions presumes the patient has been provided information about their health status, diagnosis, and prognosis
- Hospitals must assure that each patient or their representative is given information about their diagnosis and prognosis
- Patient has a right to formulate advance directives (132) and to have hospital provide care to comply with these directives
- Right to have advance directives consulted when unconscious or incapacitated

## Advance Directives 132

---

- Advance directive is defined as
  - A written instrument, such as a living will or durable power of attorney for healthcare, recognized under state law (case law or statutory law), relating to the provision of healthcare when the individual is incapacitated
- Inpatients and outpatients have the right to formulate an advance directive and have it followed
- Patients have the right to refuse medical care
  - But remember should be an educated right with risks and benefits disclosed

## Advance Directives 132

---

- In advance directives patient may provide what care they want or do not want
- In advance directive, patient can delegate decision making to another person such as a DPOA
  - This person steps into the shoes of the patient when the patient is unable to speak for themselves and consent is obtained from the DPOA (surrogate decision maker)
- Patient may also delegate support person also in their advance directives for purpose of exercising patient visitation rights
- Designation in the AD takes precedence

## Advance Directives 132

---

- Written notice of the hospital's AD policy must be provided to inpatients when admitted at time of registration
  - Such as right to make an AD
  - A summary and not a copy of the AD P&P
  - Document this in the MR
- Also to outpatients or their representatives in the **ED, observation** or undergoing **same day surgery**

## The Exact Language Tag 132

---

§489.102 also requires the hospital to:

- Provide written notice of its policies regarding the implementation of patients' rights to make decisions concerning medical care, such as the right to formulate advance directives. If an individual is incapacitated or otherwise unable to communicate, the hospital may provide the advance directive information required under §489.102 to the individual's "family or surrogate in the same manner that it issues other materials about policies and procedures to the family of the incapacitated individual or to a surrogate or other concerned persons in accordance with State law." (§489.102(e)) The guidance concerning the regulation at §482.13(a)(1) governing notice to the patient or the patient's representative of the patient's rights applies to the required provision of notice concerning the hospital's advance directive policies. Although both inpatients and outpatients have the same rights under §482.13(a)(1), §489.102(b)(1) requires that notice of the hospital's advance directive policy be provided at the time an individual is admitted as an inpatient. However, in view of the broader notice requirements at §482.13(a)(1), the hospital should also provide the advance directive notice to outpatients (or their representatives) who are in the emergency department, who are in an observation status, or who are undergoing same-day surgery. The notice should be presented at the time of registration. Notice is not required for other outpatients, given that they are unlikely to become incapacitated.

## Patient Rights 0132

---

- Note rights as inpatient and outpatient AD requirements of TJC
- Be sure practitioners and staff provide care that is consistent with these directives with the patient is incapacitated
  - That why it is called an advance directive
  - Patient while competent decide in advance what they do and do not want done when they become unable to speak for themselves
- In your policy should have clear statement of any limitations such as conscience

## Conscience Objectors 132

---

- CMS states that the provision allowing for conscience objection to implementing an advance directive is narrowly focused on the directive's content related to medical conditions or procedures
  - This would not allow a hospital or individual physician to refuse to honor those part of the advance directive that designate an individual as the patient's representative and/or support person
  - This is because this does not concern a medical condition or procedure
- Notice to the patient must be clear on basis of conscious objections

## Advance Directives

---

- At a minimum, clarify any difference between facility wide conscience objections and those raised by individual doctors or other practitioners
- Identify the state legal authority permitting such objection
- Describe the medical conditions or procedures affected by the conscience objection
- You must provide written information to the patient on their rights under state law

## Advance Directives

---

- Document in the MR whether or not they have one
- Not condition treatment on whether or not they have one
- Ensure compliance with state laws on AD
- Inform patients they may file complaints with state survey and certification agency
  - Like the department of health or the BFCC QIO for Medicare patients

## Patient Rights Advance Directives 0132

---

- Provide for education of staff and on P&P on advance directives
- Provide community education and document
- Right to formulate advance directives includes right to make psychiatric AD (PAD) as allowed by state law
- PAD should be given respect and consideration as traditional AD
- PAD may apply if subject to involuntary commitment

## Survey Procedure 132

---

- CMS has survey procedures which directs the surveyor what to ask and what documents to look at
- Surveyor is to review the advance directive notice given to the inpatients and applicable outpatients
  - Does this include the right of the patient to make an advance directive
  - Does it include that staff must comply with the advance directive in accordance with state law
- Surveyor is instructed to review the medical record for evidence of compliance with AD
  - Is there documentation in every inpatient and applicable outpatient record that the notice was given to the patient when they registered

## Survey Procedure 132

---

- If patient reported they have an AD, has a copy been placed in the medical record?
- What process is in place to allow patients to make one if they want?
- What is the process to update their current advance directive?
- Surveyor is suppose to look at what education hospital has done on AD
- Surveyor is to interview staff to determine their knowledge of AD

## Informing the Patient 216

---

- Must inform each patient of their visitation rights or support person when appropriate
- Patient can withdrawal consent for visitors at anytime
- If patient is incapacitated or unable to communicate then provide information to their advance directive designating a support person
  - Could be a visitation advance directive and can be different than the DPOA

## Advance Directives 216

---

- If no AD designating a representative then individual who asserts is spouse, domestic partner, parent of a child, or other family friend or family, the hospital will accept this without requiring proof
  - Unless more than one person claims to be the support person then ask for documentation
- Need to have non-discriminatory resolution of disputes
- Refusal to honor request of person to be treated as the support person must be documented in the medical record along with basis for refusal

## Incapacitated Patient with No AD

---

*When a patient is incapacitated or otherwise unable to communicate his or her wishes, there is no advance directive designating a representative on file, and no one has presented an advance directive designating himself or herself as the patient's representative, but an individual asserts that he or she, as the patient's spouse, domestic partner (including a same-sex domestic partner), parent or other family member, friend, or otherwise, is the patient's support person, the hospital is expected to accept this assertion, without demanding supporting documentation, provide the required notice of the patient's visitation rights, and allow the individual to exercise the patient's visitation rights on the patient's behalf. However, if more than one individual claims to be the patient's support person, it would not be inappropriate for the hospital to ask each individual for documentation supporting his/her claim to be the patient's support person.*

- *Hospitals are expected to adopt policies and procedures that facilitate expeditious and non-discriminatory resolution of disputes about whether an individual is the patient's support person, given the critical role of the support person in exercising the patient's visitation rights.*

## CMS Surgery Section Tag 751

---

- CMS has a standard in the surgery section, tag A-0951, that requires a policy on DNR status
- Staff should be aware of their facility policy on DNR in the OR and in the hospital setting
- Policy should consider position statement from professional organizations
- Policy should reflect state regulations and case law
  - For example in Ohio has a statute and rules on DNR
- Rules contain the substantive information on how personnel should proceed
- Know your state laws (statutes and case law)

## Transfer or Referral 837

---

- This standard talks about what the hospital must do when it transfers a patient
- The hospital must send the necessary medical records along with the patient
- CMS requires that when the patient is transferred that a copy of the advance directives is sent with the patient
- Also make sure you use an interpreters if patient need and remember issue of low health literacy

# CMS Critical Access Hospital (CAH) on Advance Directives



---

**Appendix W**  
**Critical Access Hospital Interpretive Guidelines**

**C-0151****§485.608(a) Standard: Compliance With Federal Laws and Regulations**

**The CAH is in compliance with applicable Federal laws and regulations related to the health and safety of patients.**

**Survey Procedures §485.608(a)**

*Each CAH must be in compliance with applicable Federal laws and regulations related to the health and safety of patients. This includes other Medicare regulations and Federal laws and regulations not specifically addressed in the CoPs. State Survey Agencies are expected to assess the CAH's compliance with the following Medicare provider agreement regulation provisions when surveying for compliance with §485.608(a):*

***Advance Directives***

*An advance directive is defined at 42 CFR 489.100 as “a written instruction, such as a living will or durable power of attorney for health care, recognized under State law (whether statutory or as recognized by the courts of the State), relating to the provision of health care when the individual is incapacitated.” In accordance with the provisions of 42 CFR 489.102(a), the advance directives regulations apply to CAHs. The CAH patient (inpatient or outpatient) has the right to formulate advance directives, and to have CAH staff implement and comply with the individual's advance directive. The regulation at 42 CFR 489.102 specifies the rights of a patient (as permitted by State law) to make medical care decisions, including the right to accept or refuse medical or surgical treatment and the right to formulate, at the individual's option,*

## CAH Advance Directives 151

---

- CAH must in compliance with federal laws and regulations related to the health and safety of patients
- Inpatients and outpatients have the right to make advance directives
- Staff must comply with their advance directives
- Patients have the right to refuse treatment
- Make have a DPOA or another person such as a support person

## CAH Advance Directives 151

---

- May use advance directives to designate a support person for person of exercising the visitation rights
- If patient incapacitated and DPOA then must give this information to make informed decisions and consent for the patient
- CAH must also seek the consent of the patient's representative when informed consent is required for a care decision

## CAH Advance Directives 151

---

- Must provide advance directive information to the competent patient when admitted
  - Must also give to the outpatient if in the ED, observation, or same day surgery patient
  - Must document you gave it in the medical record
- If incapacitated then to the family or surrogate
- Has conscience objector clause but must still allow DPOA or support person to make decision if incapacitated

## Advance Directives 151

---

- Can not require one
- Must make sure staff is educated on the P&P
- This includes the right to make a psychiatric advance directive or mental health declaration
  - Should still give consideration even if not a state specific law
- Must provide community education

# Joint Commission Tracer

**Patient Rights includes addressing advance directives**



## Patient Rights Tracer Removed 2016

---

- Please note that patient rights tracer was removed in 2013 but provided as reference since surveyor may still ask questions
- A list of these questions have been included for reference
- Note that rights of patients is mentioned under individual tracers
- Documents surveyor is suppose to see is information in the admission packet such as advance directives

## Questions Asked About in Past

---

- Surveyor should assess patient and family understanding of the following:
- Rights including advance directives
- Make sure given rights prior to receiving care
- Process and right to register a complaint or grievance (CMS has grievance standards)
- Patient safety and privacy of health information

## Patient Centered Communication Removed 2013

---

- During each individual tracer surveyor will interview staff about the following (still a standard in 2016):
  - What the hospital is doing to minimize risk
  - How the hospital is collecting race and ethnicity data
  - How are the staff asking patients about their communication needs
  - How staff identify if patients have oral or written communication needs and how these are address
  - Access to language interpreters and translated documents and involvement of interpreter on the care team

## Patient Centered Communication

---

- During each individual tracer surveyor will interview staff about the following:
- Hospital support of patient's right of access to advocate or support person during hospitalization
- Will interview interpreters and translators about their training, experience, and qualifications
  - This includes employed staff, bilingual staff, and volunteers
- Remember the TJC five patient centered communication standards in 4 different chapters

# TJC Advance Directive Standards

## What Hospitals Should Know



## TJC Standards Advance Directive is..

---

**TJC Definition** (not called JCAHO anymore):

- A document or documentation allowing a person to give directions about future medical care or to designate another person(s) to make medical decisions if the individual loses decision-making capacity
- Advance directives may include living wills, durable powers of attorney (DPOA), do-not-resuscitate (DNRs) orders, right to die, or similar documents listed in the Patient Self-Determination Act (PSDA) which express the patient's preferences

## TJC Advance Directive RI.01.05.01

---

- Standard: The hospital addresses patient decisions about care and services received at end of life care
- There are 21 elements of performance
- Actually only 16 since 2, 3, 7, 14 and 18 do not apply to hospitals
- This standard does not have a rationale
- Standard especially important for patients to make end of life decisions

## End of Life Decision

---

- The hospital should address the wishes of the patient relating to end-of-life decisions
- P&P address advance directives and are consistent with the federal and state law
- P&P provide the framework for foregoing or withdrawing life-sustaining resuscitation services
- Do you provide end of life education to staff?

## TJC Advance Directive RI.01.05.01

---

- **EP1** Hospital has written P&P on advance directives
  - Need to include P&P on forgoing or withholding life sustaining treatment
  - And P&P on withholding resuscitation services
  - Must in accordance with laws
- **EP4** Need to specify whether hospital will honor AD in outpatient setting
  - Need written policy on this

## TJC Advance Directive RI.01.05.01

---

- **EP5** Hospital must implement its AD policies
- **EP6** Hospital provides patients with written information about AD
  - This includes foregoing or withdrawing life sustaining treatment and withholding resuscitation services
- **EP8** Hospital must provide patient with information on admission if able or unable or unwilling to comply with AD

## TJC Advance Directive RI.01.05.01

---

- **EP9** Hospital must document if the patient has or does not have an AD
- **EP10** Hospital refers patient for assistance in drafting AD, upon request
- **EP11** Staff and LIPs involved in patient's care are aware of whether or not patient has AD
- **EP12** Hospital honors patient's right to review and revise their AD

## TJC Advance Directive RI.01.05.01

---

- **EP13** Hospital needs to honor AD in accordance with law and regulation and the hospital's capabilities
- **EP15** Document patient wishes concerning organ donation when they make their wishes known to the hospital or as required by P&P or laws and regulations
- **EP16** Must honor the patient's wishes concerning organ donation within limits of hospital's capabilities and laws

## TJC Advance Directive RI.01.05.01

---

- **EP17** Access to care is not determined by fact patient has an AD or doesn't have one
- **EP19** The hospital must communicate its policy upon request or when warranted by the care provided in their P&P on AD in the outpatient setting
- **EP20** Hospital refers patient to resources to help them draft an AD in the outpatient setting

## TJC Advance Directive RI.01.05.01

---

- **EP21** The hospital defines how it obtains and documents permission to perform an autopsy
  - Will ask for copy of autopsy policy
- This standard is for hospitals that use the Joint Commission standard for deemed status (DS)
  - The VA is TJC accredited but they do not accept Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement at this time so they do not have to follow this standard
- This was added to the TJC standards because it is a CMS CoP

## Record of Care RC.02.01.01 EP4

---

- TJC has a Record of Care chapter or RC
- It has one section regarding advance directives
- This standard says that the medical record must contain a copy of the advance directive
- Remember to follow up with patients and obtain a copy and place it on the chart

## Recommendation for Compliance

---

- Place a **sticker** on the front of the chart that lists the types of advance directives and mark each one that the patient has or have a tab in the electronic record
- Comply with standard so that all staff are notified patient has an AD
- Have a **policy and procedure** that includes these provisions
- Complete an advance directive form on every patient upon admission, get copies on the chart!
- Ask the patient and document if they want any **changes** to their advance directives

## Recommendation for Compliance

---

- Document review by one of your staff to make sure the patient has not changed their mind
- Add this as a check off box on your advance directive form
- Advance directives reviewed with patient or family members
- Policy needs to address what will happen when patient goes to surgery
- May include information in packet for outpatients as to your policy



## Position Statements

---

- American College of Surgeons on Advance Directives and DNR orders in the operating room<sup>1</sup>
- AORN has policy on perioperative care of patients with DNR orders, automatically suspending order during surgery undermines patient's right to self determination
- Need to discuss and document issues with patients whether to be continued in OR or not or partially suspended

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.facs.org/fellows\\_info/statements/st-19.html](http://www.facs.org/fellows_info/statements/st-19.html) or <https://www.facs.org/about-acf/statements/19-advance-directives>

## ASA Position Statement

---

- American Society of Anesthesiologist  
“Ethical Guidelines for the anesthesia care of patients with do not resuscitate orders or other directives that limit treatment<sup>1</sup>
- Policies automatically suspending DNR orders may not address patient’s rights to self determination
- Administration of anesthesia might involve some practices seen as resuscitation in other settings

<sup>1</sup> [www.asahq.org/publicationsAndServices/sgstoc.htm](http://www.asahq.org/publicationsAndServices/sgstoc.htm) <sup>2</sup> <http://asahq.org/For-Healthcare-Professionals/Standards-Guidelines-and-Statements.aspx>

## ASA Position

---

- Full attempt at resuscitation which includes the immediate post-op period
- Limited attempts such as chest compressions or defib or tracheal intubation
  - Patient is informed 1) essential to the success of the anesthesia and the proposed procedure, and 2) which procedures are not essential and may be refused
- Limited attempt with regard to patient goals and values
  - Anesthesiologists uses clinical judgment in which ones to use in light of patient's goals

# ASA DNR Orders

---

## **ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE ANESTHESIA CARE OF PATIENTS WITH DO-NOT-RESUSCITATE ORDERS OR OTHER DIRECTIVES THAT LIMIT TREATMENT**

**Committee of Origin: Ethics**

**(Approved by the ASA House of Delegates on October 17, 2001, and last amended on October 16, 2013)**

*These guidelines apply both to patients with decision-making capacity and also to patients without decision-making capacity who have previously expressed their preferences.*

- I. Given the diversity of published opinions and cultures within our society, an essential element of preoperative preparation and perioperative care for patients with Do-Not-Resuscitate (DNR) orders or other directives that limit treatment is communication among involved parties. It is necessary to document relevant aspects of this communication.
- II. Policies automatically suspending DNR orders or other directives that limit treatment prior to procedures involving anesthetic care may not sufficiently address a patient's rights to self-determination in a responsible and ethical manner. Such policies, if they exist, should be reviewed and revised, as necessary, to reflect the content of these guidelines.
- III. The administration of anesthesia necessarily involves some practices and procedures that might be viewed as "resuscitation" in other settings. Prior to procedures requiring anesthetic care, any existing directives to limit the use of resuscitation procedures (that is, do-not-resuscitate orders and/or advance directives) should, when possible, be reviewed with the patient or designated surrogate. As a result of this review, the status of these directives should be clarified or modified based on the preferences of the patient. One of the three following alternatives may provide for a satisfactory outcome in many cases.
  - A. **Full Attempt at Resuscitation:** The patient or designated surrogate may request the full suspension of existing directives during the anesthetic and immediate postoperative period, thereby consenting to the use of any resuscitation procedures that may be appropriate to treat clinical events that occur during this time.
  - B. **Limited Attempt at Resuscitation Defined With Regard to Specific Procedures:** The

# ASA End Of Life Care

---

## **STATEMENT ON QUALITY OF END-OF-LIFE CARE**

**Committee of Origin: Pain Medicine**

**(Approved by the ASA House of Delegates on October 21, 1998, last amended on October 22, 2008, and reaffirmed on October 16, 2013)**

Patients developing incurable diseases frequently experience more pain and distressing symptoms than necessary near the end of life. This circumstance is distressing because adequate pain and symptom management in most cases is not dependent upon future medical discoveries, but can be achieved with contemporary management methodologies. Quality end-of-life patient care requires that palliative (or comfort) treatment concepts be integrated into the care of these patients.

The American Society of Anesthesiologists believes that opportunities exist to improve our patients' end-of-life care. Education and training of patients, families, health care workers and physicians should be undertaken to promote available, compassionate, comprehensive and interdisciplinary end-of-life care.

Further, the American Society of Anesthesiologists believes that the improvements in palliative care should be based on values-based advanced care planning. This advanced care planning should attempt to minimize the sense of abandonment often described by patients near the end of life and the loss of control many patients feel.

Finally, the American Society of Anesthesiologists declares opposition to physician-assisted suicide and agrees in principle with the American Medical Association that provision of assisted suicide is not compatible with the role of a physician. Anesthesiologists should always strive to relieve suffering, address the psychological and spiritual needs of patients at the end of life, add value to a patient's remaining life and allow patients to die with dignity.

# ASA Standard and Guidelines

The screenshot shows the ASA website with a dark blue header. The top left contains navigation links: Contact Us, Marketing Opportunities, and Site Map. The top right features a Member Sign-In button, a search bar with the text 'Search Terms...', and an Advanced Search link. The main header includes the ASA logo and a navigation menu with links to myASA, ASA CALENDAR, ASAPAC, EDUCATION CENTER, JOIN ASA, ASA-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS, and SHOP ASA. Below the header is a blue navigation bar with tabs for 'For Members', 'For Residents and Students', 'For the Public and Media', and 'For Health Professionals'. A blue banner below the navigation bar reads: 'Notice: ASA is now accepting 2013 Committee Nominations - Deadline: January 15, 2012'. The main content area has a white background and contains a breadcrumb trail: 'Home » MyASA » Standards, Guidelines, Statements and Other Documents'. The page title is 'Standards, Guidelines, Statements and Other Documents'. On the left side, there is a 'myASA Sign-In' button and a section titled 'In This Section' with links to About ASA, Education and Events, Publications, Practice Management, Patient Quality and Safety, Career Opportunities, Shop ASA, and Standards, Guidelines. The main content area contains the following text: 'ASA Standards, Guidelines and Statements provide guidance to improve decision-making and promote beneficial outcomes for the practice of anesthesiology. They are not intended as unique or exclusive indicators of appropriate care. The interpretation and application of Standards, Guidelines and Statements takes place within the context of local institutions, organizations and practice conditions. A departure from one or more recommendations may be appropriate if the facts and circumstances demonstrate that the rendered care met the physician's duty to the patient.' Below this, there are two paragraphs: one defining 'Standards' as rules or minimum requirements for clinical practice, and another defining 'Guidelines' as systematically developed recommendations that assist the practitioner and patient in making decisions about health care.

<http://asahq.org/For-Healthcare-Professionals/Standards-Guidelines-and-Statements.aspx>

myASA Sign-In

UPDATE YOUR PROFILE? Login to MyASA and update your professional profile! Login Now »

**In This Section**

- About ASA »
- Education and Events »
- Publications »
- Practice Management
- Patient Quality and Safety »
- Career Opportunities
- Shop ASA
- Standards, Guidelines

## Standards, Guidelines, Statements and Other Documents

ASA Standards, Guidelines and Statements provide guidance to improve decision-making and promote beneficial outcomes for the practice of anesthesiology. They are not intended as unique or exclusive indicators of appropriate care. The interpretation and application of Standards, Guidelines and Statements takes place within the context of local institutions, organizations and practice conditions. A departure from one or more recommendations may be appropriate if the facts and circumstances demonstrate that the rendered care met the physician's duty to the patient.

**Standards** provide rules or minimum requirements for clinical practice. They are regarded as generally accepted principles of patient management. Standards may be modified only under unusual circumstances, e.g., extreme emergencies or unavailability of equipment.

**Guidelines** are systematically developed recommendations that assist the practitioner and patient in making decisions about health care. These recommendations may be adopted, modified, or rejected according to

## Council on Surgical & Perioperative Safety

---

- One website to access DNR position statements of many organizations<sup>1</sup>
- This includes:
  - ASPAN for the PACU staff
  - ACS DNR in the OR for the surgeons
  - AORN for the OR nurses on Perioperative Care of the Patient with a DNR Order
  - AST DNR article for the surgical techs

<sup>1</sup> [www.cspsteam.org/resuscitationplan/resuscitationplan.html](http://www.cspsteam.org/resuscitationplan/resuscitationplan.html)

# Council on Surgical & Perioperative Safety



The screenshot displays the CSPS website header with the logo and tagline "One Team. One Goal. Surgical Patient Safety." Below the header is a navigation menu with links for Home, About Us, Safe Surgery Resources, Resources, News & Press Releases, Member Link, and Contact Us. The main content area features a photograph of a patient in an operating room on the left. To the right, the page title is "CSPS Safe Surgery Resources" with "Resuscitation Plan #15" below it. There are "EMAIL" and "SHARE" icons. The main text states: "Patients who are not candidates for resuscitation may nonetheless require perioperative care. Such care should respect the patients' wishes and directives and their effect on the perioperative plan. These issues should be addressed by the surgeon and anesthesia provider with the patient or surrogate decision maker in advance of the procedure whenever possible. The plan of care should be shared with all members of the perioperative team. (Adopted 6.29.09)". A list of four related resources follows, each with a bullet point and a link: ASPAN: Position Statement on the Perianesthesia Patient with a Do-Not-Resuscitate Advance Directive; ACS: Statement on Advance Directives by Patients: "Do Not Resuscitate" in the Operating Room; AORN: Position Statement on Perioperative Care of Patients with Do-Not-Resuscitate or Allow-Natural-Death Orders; and AST: Do Not Resuscitate Article (pdf). At the bottom left is a URL: http://www.facs.org/fellows\_info/statements/st-19.html. At the bottom right is a link: >>Back to Safe Surgery Resources.

## PACU Care ASPAN

---

- Nurse should follow standards of post anesthesia nursing practice
- Position statements are available<sup>1</sup>
- Also has position statement on perianesthesia patient with DNR Advance Directive
- Three pages long and notes 15% of patients have a DNR order

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.aspan.org/Portals/6/docs/ClinicalPractice/PositionStatement/2-DNR.pdf>

POSITION STATEMENT 2

*American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses*

## A Position Statement on the Perianesthesia Patient with a Do-Not-Resuscitate Advance Directive



### Synopsis

Ethical care during the perianesthesia period requires that the nurse act in accordance with ethical principles and with a patient's predetermined end-of-life wishes. The perianesthesia nurse's ethical responsibilities encourage advocacy to assure a preanesthesia patient's consent is truly informed, autonomous and self-determined. The nurse also demonstrates respect by facilitating holistic concern for the perianesthesia patient's emotional, spiritual and educational well being while providing physical safety.

A patient whose advance directive specifies no life sustaining measures may be unaware that cardiac or respiratory arrest are always potential yet usually reversible outcomes associated with anesthesia. When the patient's desires for the perianesthesia period are not specifically identified, anesthetic-related changes in physiologic function present the perianesthesia nurse with ethical conflict and confusion about appropriate interventions.

### Background

1. An estimated 15% of surgical patients have an active do-not-resuscitate or do-not-intubate clause that reflects the elderly or chronically ill patient's considered preference for a "dignified death" without artificial life support.<sup>1,2</sup>
2. Palliative treatment or comfort care or emergency events might require anesthesia and surgery. These interventions stress physiologic function, suppress consciousness and precipitate transient, reversible decreases in cardiac and respiratory function, but are not associated with natural evolutions toward the patient's death.<sup>2,3,4,5</sup>
3. Endotracheal intubation, mechanical ventilation, cardiovascular medications, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and defibrillation/cardioversion are often specifically restricted in an advance directive.<sup>1,2,6,7</sup> The patient, family, and/or legal representative may not be aware that some of these interventions are routinely used to support vital organ functioning during the perianesthesia period.
4. Ethically, ignoring the issue, assuming the patient's wishes or applying a facility policy or medical decision that automatically suspends any patient's DNR/DNI directive during the perioperative period denies the patient's right to self-determination and to autonomous, informed choices.<sup>2,4,7,8</sup>

5. The perianesthesia nurse is intimately involved in determining patient readiness for procedures, often is the “first-responder” who witnesses, then collaborates with physicians to intervene and evaluate the outcomes of respiratory and/or cardiac arrest.<sup>3,4,6,11</sup> Unclear communications and ambiguous or nonexistent facility policies about a patient’s DNR/DNI status during the perianesthesia period do not direct and support a nurse’s decisions and actions. Ethically, this nurse must choose between not responding, thereby doing harm (maleficence), and a professional and legal obligation to preserve life without harm (beneficence). These choices may conflict with the patient’s stated end-of-life choices.<sup>9,10,12</sup>

## Position

The American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (ASPAN) recommends that at the time of surgery and prior to receiving any anesthetic medication, a patient with an active do-not-resuscitate advance directive and/or patient representative will be asked to reclarify wishes about resuscitation during the perianesthesia period.

To limit potential for ethical dilemmas, the patient’s informed consent will include discussion of the advance directive, living will or physician order that specifies Do-Not-Resuscitate (DNR) or Do-Not-Intubate (DNI) during a candid and well-documented conversation with physicians and appropriate significant other(s).

Each facility establishes and communicates a policy that identifies resources and procedures that detail the management of a patient’s DNR/DNI status during the perianesthesia period.

## Approval of Statement

This statement was approved by a vote of the ASPAN Board of Directors on April 20, 1996 in Phoenix, Arizona. ASPAN joins other professional colleagues, specifically the American Nurses Association (ANA), the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) and the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), in considering the ethical implications of the advance directive.

This position statement was reviewed at the October 2007 meeting of the Standards and Guidelines Committee in Batesville, Indiana.

## Position Statements

---

- ACEP 'Do Not Attempt Resuscitation' (DNAR) in the Out-of-Hospital Setting on website<sup>1</sup>
- American College of Surgeons on Advance Directives and DNR orders in the operating room on website<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.acep.org/webportal/PracticeResources/PolicyStatements>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.facs.org/fellows\\_info/statements/st-19.html](http://www.facs.org/fellows_info/statements/st-19.html)

## 'Do Not Attempt Resuscitation' Orders in the Out-of-Hospital Setting

This Policy Resource and Education Paper is an explication of the Policy Statement 'Do Not Attempt Resuscitation' (DNAR) in the Out-of-Hospital Setting.

### OVERVIEW

Emergency medical providers often care for patients in cardiac arrest, and numerous ethical dilemmas may be encountered, including conflicting family opinions, unreasonable requests by bystanders, lack of availability of advance directives, and others.<sup>1-3</sup> Protocols regarding the withholding of resuscitative efforts vary widely among states and EMS jurisdictions within states. Such protocols should address many issues including justification, specificity, patient participation, inclusion of minors, liability, portability, utilization of healthcare resources, and responsibility for pronouncing death.<sup>4</sup>

As of 2002, 42 states had statewide out-of-hospital DNR protocols.<sup>5</sup> Of those, 34 were specifically authorized by statute, usually supplemented by regulation or guidelines. Eight states had implemented protocols solely through regulations or guidelines without a change in their legal code. Eight states and the District of Columbia had no statewide protocol in place. Of the 42 protocols, 39 are physician orders requiring physician signature (7 states require only a physician signature, while in 32 states both physician signature and patient endorsement of the DNAR order are required). Three protocols are patient-initiated advance directives and are valid with a witnessed patient signature, no physician involvement required.

The significance of advance directives and their role in health care at the end of life has been previously demonstrated.<sup>6-11</sup> Unfortunately, despite efforts to increase public awareness of advance directives, including public education, education within the medical community, and legal mandates, (such as, the 1991 Federal Patient Self-Determination Act), only a minority of patients have completed advance directives.<sup>12-14</sup> When available, advance directives can be valuable in ascertaining and following patient wishes for end-of-life care. Yet, completing standard advance directives do not address resuscitation issues arising in the out-of-hospital setting.

In deference to basic ethical principles, some states and some organizations' suggested statutes have focused on providing comfort care while forgoing only resuscitative interventions. Such documents, (e.g., Comfort Care DNR Order, Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment [POLST], Comfort One®, CPR directive, Arizona's prehospital advance directive statute,<sup>15</sup> and others) emphasize the need for comfort and caring during the dying process.

In both out-of-hospital and hospital settings, current resuscitation techniques generally fail in patients with comorbid illness, terminal cancer, and other irreversible disease states, when they suffer a cardiopulmonary arrest. Public opinion polls echo awareness of these findings, claiming the majority of Americans oppose life support in scenarios of terminal illness or permanent unconsciousness.<sup>16</sup> Despite public and professional agreement regarding the low likelihood of success in such situations, the medicolegal compact to attempt resuscitation, in the absence of a valid DNAR decision, continues to be sanctioned by society and submitted by EMS providers as the standard of care.

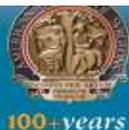
### The Out-of-hospital DNAR policy should

1. Note the established fact that current basic and advanced life support interventions may not be appropriate or beneficial in certain clinical settings.
  - Develop a means to educate the public about the appropriate use of 911 following expected deaths.
  - Establish the fact that comfort care and palliative care are affirmative actions for patients with DNAR orders. These appropriate interventions, (e.g., hospice or respite care) DO NOT require EMS activation, and often can be arranged by calling the patient's physician in anticipation of death.
  - Develop a means to educate healthcare workers on topics of Advance Directives, including information on local out-of-hospital DNAR, community hospice alternatives, and bereavement services.
2. Establish consensus on the ideal identification device for DNAR directive to assure continuity of care across settings.
3. Reiterate that initial resuscitative attempts are usually indicated when the patient's wishes are not known.
4. Define the conditions under which an out-of-hospital DNAR order can be considered, including its use in long term care settings and in the emergency department.
5. Define which patients have the decisional capacity to agree to a DNAR order and whether surrogates can sign such orders.
6. Establish a mechanism for determining the precedence of various directives (e.g., Living Will, Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare, Out-of-Hospital Advance Directive (DNAR)).
7. Develop a statutory prioritized list of surrogates to use when there are no advance directives and the patient's decisional capacity is impaired.
8. Consider language acknowledging the growing home hospice movement as concerns children and incorporate provisions for document use in minors.
9. Establish that the decision not to attempt resuscitation must be an informed decision made by the patient or surrogate.
10. Identify the information that should be contained in the DNAR order and the authority that will be responsible for developing such a mechanism.
11. Identify the clinical procedures that are to be provided and those withheld in the adherence with the DNAR order, or specify which authority will verify adherence.
12. Define the exact manner in which the DNAR order is to be followed, including the role of on-line medical direction. Each system should ensure that a communication path to access on-line medical direction is immediately available, when necessary.
13. Establish legal immunity provisions for those who implement DNAR orders in good faith.
14. Establish data collection and protocol evaluation to perform periodic operational assessments.
15. Identify permissible exceptions to compliance with DNAR out-of-hospital directives. For example:
  - The patient is able to revoke a written directive at any time.
  - The EMS personnel can cancel the out-of-hospital DNAR order if there are doubts about the document's

## American College of Surgeons

---

- Policies that lead either to the automatic enforcement of all DNR orders and requests or to disregarding or automatic cancellation of such orders and requests during the operation and recovery period may not sufficiently address a patient's right to self-determination
- An institutional policy of automatic cancellation of the DNR status in cases where a surgical procedure is to be carried out removes the patient from appropriate participation in decision making.
- Automatic enforcement without discussion and clarification may lead to inappropriate perioperative and anesthetic management.



## **[ST-19] Statement on Advance Directives by Patients: "Do Not Resuscitate" in the Operating Room**

[by the American College of Surgeons]

*The Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons approved a revised [ST-19] Statement on Advance Directives by Patients: "Do Not Resuscitate" in the Operating Room, at the Board's meeting in October 2013. The revised statement was developed and submitted by the Committee on Ethics. The original statement was published in the September 1994 Bulletin.*

It is generally expected that the surgeon will assume primary responsibility for advising patients regarding risks, benefits, and alternatives when discussing a potential operation.<sup>1</sup> This policy focuses on patients who accept a surgeon's recommendation to have surgery and who already have in place an advance directive, specifically, a "Do Not Resuscitate" (DNR) order. The best approach for these patients is a policy of "required reconsideration" of the existing DNR orders.<sup>2</sup> Required reconsideration means that the patient or designated surrogate and the physicians who will be responsible for the patient's care should, when possible, discuss the new intraoperative and perioperative risks associated with the surgical procedure, the patient's treatment goals, and an approach for potentially life-threatening problems consistent with the patient's values and preferences.

Some patients with DNR status become candidates for surgical procedures that may provide them with significant benefit, even though the procedure may not change the natural history of the underlying disease. Examples include procedures to treat intestinal obstruction in individuals with advanced malignancy and surgical procedures such as amputation to alleviate pain or prevent progression of underlying illness.

When such patients who have DNR orders in place undergo surgical procedures and the accompanying sedation or anesthesia, they are subjected to new and potentially correctable risks of cardiopulmonary arrest. Furthermore, many of the therapeutic actions employed in resuscitation (for example, intubation, mechanical ventilation, and administration of vasoactive drugs) are also an integral part of routine anesthesia management, and it is appropriate that the patient be so informed.

Policies that lead either to the automatic enforcement of all DNR orders or to disregarding or automatically cancelling such orders do not sufficiently support a patient's right to self-determination.<sup>3-5</sup> An institutional policy of automatic cancellation of DNR status in cases where a surgical procedure is to be carried out removes the patient or the patient's duly authorized representative from

Policies that lead either to the automatic enforcement of all DNR orders or to disregarding or automatically cancelling such orders do not sufficiently support a patient's right to self-determination.<sup>3-5</sup> An institutional policy of automatic cancellation of DNR status in cases where a surgical procedure is to be carried out removes the patient or the patient's duly authorized representative from appropriate participation in decision making. Automatic enforcement of DNR orders without discussion and clarification may not adequately inform patients or their authorized representatives about the new risks associated with surgery and anesthesia and may lead to inappropriate perioperative and anesthetic management.

The required reconsideration discussion should occur as early as practical after a decision is made to have surgery. This discussion may result in the patient agreeing to suspend the DNR order during surgery and the perioperative period, retaining the original DNR order, or modifying the DNR order. Required reconsideration works best when the patient has decision-making capacity and when time is available for a conversation. However, even in urgent situations or when the patient lacks decision-making capacity, the surgeon can usually discuss the situation with the patient's designated surrogate. In emergency situations, it may be impossible or impractical for the surgeon to speak with the patient or the patient's duly authorized representative prior to the patient's approaching demise, when irreversible damage occurs, or similar circumstances. In such situations, the surgeon must use his or her best judgment as to what the patient would wish.

Once a decision is reached on the patient's DNR status as a result of the required reconsideration conversation, the surgeon must continue his or her leadership role in the following areas: (1) documenting and conveying the patient's advance directive and DNR status to the members of the operating room team; (2) helping the operating room team members understand and interpret the patient's advance directive; and (3) if necessary, finding an alternate team member to replace an individual who has an ethical or professional conflict with the patient's advance directive instructions.<sup>6</sup>

State law and institutional policies may also impact DNR orders and must be taken into account in determining the appropriate course of action.

---

## References

1. Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. *Manual of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations*. Patient Rights Chapter. Chicago, IL: JCAHO; 1994.
2. Cohen CB, Cohen PJ. Required reconsideration of "Do-Not-Resuscitate" orders in the operating room and certain other treatment settings. *Law Med Health Care*. 1992;20(4):354-363.
3. AORN position statement: Perioperative care of patients with Do-Not-Resuscitate or Allow-Natural-Death Orders. 2009. Available at: [www.aorn.org/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=21917](http://www.aorn.org/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=21917). Accessed September 11, 2013.
4. American Society of Anesthesiologists. Ethical guidelines for the anesthesia care of patients with Do-Not-Resuscitate orders or other directives that limit treatment. 2008. Available at: [www.asahq.org/For-Healthcare-Professionals/~media/For%20Members/documents/Standards%20Guidelines%20Stmts/Ethical%20Guidelines%20for%20the%20Anesthesia%20Care%20of%20Patients.ashx](http://www.asahq.org/For-Healthcare-Professionals/~media/For%20Members/documents/Standards%20Guidelines%20Stmts/Ethical%20Guidelines%20for%20the%20Anesthesia%20Care%20of%20Patients.ashx). Accessed November 18, 2013.
5. American College of Surgeons. Statement of the American College of Surgeons on Advance Directives by Patients: "Do Not Resuscitate" in the Operating Room. *Bull Am Coll of Surg*. 1994;79(9):29.
6. Demme RA, Singer EA, Greenlaw J, Quill TE. Ethical issues in palliative care. *Anesthesiol Clin*. 2006;24(1):129-144.

Governance

Presidential Address

ACS and the Seal

College Guidelines

Statements of the College

ACS Foundation

Archives and History

Careers at ACS

Newsroom

Association Management  
Services

## Statement on Advance Directives by Patients: "Do Not Resuscitate" in the Operating Room

Online January 3, 2014

*The Board of Regents of the American College of Surgeons approved a revised [ST-19] Statement on Advance Directives by Patients: "Do Not Resuscitate" in the Operating Room, at the Board's meeting in October 2013. The revised statement was developed and submitted by the Committee on Ethics. The original statement was published in the September 1994 Bulletin.*

It is generally expected that the surgeon will assume primary responsibility for advising patients regarding risks, benefits, and alternatives when discussing a potential operation.<sup>1</sup> This policy focuses on patients who accept a surgeon's recommendation to have surgery and who already have in place an advance directive, specifically, a "Do Not Resuscitate" (DNR) order. The best approach for these patients is a policy of "required reconsideration" of the existing DNR orders.<sup>2</sup> Required reconsideration means that the patient or designated surrogate and the physicians who will be responsible for the patient's care should, when possible, discuss the new intraoperative and perioperative risks associated with the surgical procedure, the patient's treatment goals, and an approach for potentially life-threatening problems consistent with the patient's values and preferences.

Some patients with DNR status become candidates for surgical procedures that may provide them with significant benefit, even though the procedure may not change the natural history of the underlying disease. Examples include procedures to treat intestinal obstruction in individuals with advanced malignancy and surgical procedures such as amputation to alleviate pain or prevent progression of underlying illness.

When such patients who have DNR orders in place undergo surgical procedures and the accompanying sedation or anesthesia, they are subjected to new and potentially correctable risks of cardiopulmonary arrest. Furthermore, many of the therapeutic actions employed in resuscitation (for example, intubation, mechanical ventilation, and administration of vasoactive drugs) are also an integral part of routine anesthesia management, and it is appropriate that the patient be so informed.

Policies that lead either to the automatic enforcement of all DNR orders or to disregarding or automatically cancelling such orders do not sufficiently support a patient's right to self-determination.<sup>3-5</sup> An institutional policy of automatic cancellation of DNR status in cases where a surgical procedure is to be carried out

Once a decision is reached on the patient's DNR status as a result of the required reconsideration conversation, the surgeon must continue his or her leadership role in the following areas: (1) documenting and conveying the patient's advance directive and DNR status to the members of the operating room team; (2) helping the operating room team members understand and interpret the patient's advance directive; and (3) if necessary, finding an alternate team member to replace an individual who has an ethical or professional conflict with the patient's advance directive instructions.<sup>7</sup>

State law and institutional policies may also impact DNR orders and must be taken into account in determining the appropriate course of action.

### References

1. Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. *Manual of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations. Patient Rights Chapter*. Chicago, IL: JCAHO; 1994.
2. Cohen CB, Cohen PJ. Required reconsideration of "Do-Not-Resuscitate" orders in the operating room and certain other treatment settings. *Law Med Health Care*. 1992;20(4):354-363.
3. AORN position statement: Perioperative care of patients with Do-Not-Resuscitate or Allow-Natural-Death Orders, 2009. Available at: [www.aorn.org/WorkArea/DownloadContent.aspx?id=21517](http://www.aorn.org/WorkArea/DownloadContent.aspx?id=21517). Accessed September 15, 2012.
4. American Society of Anesthesiologists. Ethical guidelines for the anesthetic care of patients with Do-Not-Resuscitate orders or other directives that limit treatment, 2005. Available at: [www.asahq.org/For-Healthcare-Professionals/Issues/For-%20Members/Documents/Standards%20Guidelines%20Ethical%20Guidelines%20for%20the%20Anesthesia%20Care%20of%20Patients.aspx](http://www.asahq.org/For-Healthcare-Professionals/Issues/For-%20Members/Documents/Standards%20Guidelines%20Ethical%20Guidelines%20for%20the%20Anesthesia%20Care%20of%20Patients.aspx). Accessed November 18, 2012.
5. American College of Surgeons. Statement of the American College of Surgeons on Advance Directives by Patients: "Do Not Resuscitate" in the Operating Room. *Bull Am Coll of Surg*. 1994;79(9):29.
6. Davern TA, Singer EA, Greenlee J, Quill TE. Ethical issues in palliative care. *Anesth Analg*. 2006;2A(1):126-144.

Reprinted from **Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons**  
Vol. 99 No. 1, Pages 42-43, January 2014

## Position Statements AORN

---

- **AORN** has policy on perioperative care of patients with DNR orders, **automatically suspending order** during surgery undermines patient's right to self determination
- Need to discuss and document issues with patients whether to be continued in OR or not or partially suspended

Source:

[http://www.aorn.org/PracticeResources/AORNPositionStatements/Position\\_DoNotResuscitate/](http://www.aorn.org/PracticeResources/AORNPositionStatements/Position_DoNotResuscitate/)

# AORN DNR Position Statement



## **Perioperative Care of Patients with Do-Not-Resuscitate or Allow-Natural-Death Orders**

### **PREAMBLE**

Nurses have a responsibility to uphold the rights of patients.<sup>1,2,3</sup> It has been reported that approximately 15% of patients who have do-not-resuscitate or allow-natural-death orders undergo surgical procedures and anesthesia management.<sup>4</sup> These procedures often are for palliative care, to relieve pain or distress, to facilitate care, or to improve the patient's quality of life. Do-not-resuscitate or allow-natural-death orders should not mean that all treatment is stopped and the need for medical and nursing care is eliminated, but rather that the patient has made certain choices about end-of-life decisions.<sup>5,6</sup> A patient's rights do not stop at the entrance to the operating or procedure room. Automatically suspending a do-not-resuscitate or allow-natural-death order during surgery undermines a patient's right to self-determination.<sup>7</sup> Professional organizations support developing policies to address do-not-resuscitate or allow-natural-death orders in the operating or procedure room.<sup>7,8,9,10,11</sup>

### **POSITION STATEMENT**

Patient autonomy must be respected and is the professional responsibility of the health care team. The perioperative registered nurse, as a patient advocate, has an ethical and moral responsibility to the patient. Therefore, AORN believes that:

- reconsideration of do-not-resuscitate or allow-natural-death orders is required and is an integral component of the care of patients undergoing surgery or other invasive procedures;<sup>7,9,12,13</sup>
- health care providers should have a discussion with the patient or patient's surrogate about the risks, benefits, implications, and potential outcomes of anesthesia and surgery in relation to the do-not-resuscitate or allow-natural-death orders before initiating anesthesia, surgery, or other invasive procedures;<sup>9,12,14</sup>
- clear identification methods (eg, standardized wrist bands) for the patient who has do-not-resuscitate or allow-natural-death orders may decrease the risk for miscommunication<sup>15</sup> and

- 
- clear identification methods (eg, standardized wrist bands) for the patient who has do-not-resuscitate or allow-natural-death orders may decrease the risk for miscommunication;<sup>15</sup> and
  - use of acronyms and abbreviations (eg, DNR, DNAR, AND) should be discouraged to decrease the risk of miscommunication.<sup>6,16,17</sup>

AORN believes the following strategies should be followed during reconsideration of do-not-resuscitate or allow-natural-death decisions:

### **Communication with the patient and patient's family members**

- The patient's physicians and anesthesia care providers are responsible for discussing and documenting issues with the patient and/or family members to determine whether the do-not-resuscitate or allow-natural-death orders are maintained or completely or partially suspended during anesthesia and surgery.<sup>9,12</sup>
- The discussion should include:
  - goals of the surgical treatment,



- potential for resuscitative measures and a description of what these measures include (eg, whether withholding resuscitation compromises the patient's basic objectives for surgery); and
- potential outcomes with and without resuscitation.<sup>7,9,12</sup>

### **Communication with the health care team**

## Position Statements

---

- ENA RESUSCITATIVE DECISIONS<sup>1</sup>
- AMA based on Universal out-of-hospital DNR systems, Opinion of the Council of Ethical and Judicial Affairs, DNR Order, amendment <sup>2</sup>
- AMA has model legislation on uniform DNR laws
- Some states have POLST or MOLST

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ena.org/about/position/>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/369/ceja\\_opinion\\_2\\_22.pdf](http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/369/ceja_opinion_2_22.pdf)

## MOLST or POLST

---

- **POLST** stands for **physician orders for life-sustaining treatment**
- National approach to end of life planning based on conversation with doctors and families
- Patient choose treatments they want when seriously ill
  - To read more about POLST or MOLST go to website<sup>1</sup>
- Can see forms for New York, Oregon, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin

<sup>1</sup> [www.polst.org](http://www.polst.org)

# POLST

**POLST**  
physician orders for life-sustaining treatment paradigm<sup>®</sup>

[www.polst.org/](http://www.polst.org/)

Donate to POLST

About News For Patients and Families Programs in Your State Develop a Program Resources

## What is POLST?

The National POLST Paradigm is an approach to end-of-life planning based on conversations between patients, loved ones, and medical providers. The POLST Paradigm is designed to ensure that seriously ill patients can choose the treatments they want and that their wishes are honored by medical providers.

### Recent News

**Webinar: Utah's ePOLST Experience**  
07 December 27, 2013

On January 28th, 2014, from 11am – 12 pm (Pacific Time) the National POLST Office will host a webinar on Utah's ePOLST Experience. Presenters Peter Taillac, Jeffrey Duncan, and Deepthi Rajeev will describe the development and initial pilot testing of Utah's new[...] [Read more](#) »

Introduction to The POLST Video Series YouTube

[Home](#) » [Resources](#) » [Sample Policies and Protocols](#)

## Sample Policies and Protocols

### Policies and Standards

#### Hospital Policies:

1. [Hospital CPR Orders in Communities that have a POLST Paradigm Program \(PDF\)](#)
2. [OHSU Policy: Do Not Resuscitate, Advance Directives, Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment, & End-of-Life Decision-Making Process \(PDF\)](#)
3. [PeaceHealth POLST Policy \(PDF\)](#)
4. [Mountain View Hospital POLST Policy \(PDF\)](#)
5. [Madras Medical Group \(PDF\)](#)

#### EMS Policies:

1. [Sample EMS Protocol \(PDF\)](#)

#### Persons with Disabilities and/or Significant Mental Health Condition:

**HIPAA PERMITS DISCLOSURE OF POLST TO OTHER HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS AS NECESSARY**

# Physician Orders

## for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST)

First follow these orders, then contact physician, NP, or PA. This is a Physician Order Sheet based on the person's medical condition and wishes. Any section not completed implies full treatment for that section. Everyone shall be treated with dignity and respect.

Last Name

First Name/ Middle Initial

Date of Birth

**A**

Check One

**CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR):** Person has no pulse and is not breathing.

Attempt Resuscitation/CPR       Do Not Attempt Resuscitation/DNR (Allow Natural Death)

When not in cardiopulmonary arrest, follow orders in **B**, **C** and **D**.

**B**

Check One

**MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS:** Person has pulse and/or is breathing.

**Comfort Measures Only** Use medication by any route, positioning, wound care and other measures to relieve pain and suffering. Use oxygen, suction and manual treatment of airway obstruction as needed for comfort. **Do not transfer** to hospital for life-sustaining treatment.

*Transfer if comfort needs cannot be met in current location.*

**Limited Additional Interventions** Includes care described above. Use medical treatment, IV fluids and cardiac monitor as indicated. Do not use intubation, advanced airway interventions, or mechanical ventilation. **Transfer to hospital if indicated.** Avoid intensive care.

**Full Treatment** Includes care described above. Use intubation, advanced airway interventions, mechanical ventilation, and cardioversion as indicated. **Transfer to hospital if indicated.** Includes intensive care.

Additional Orders: \_\_\_\_\_

**C**Check  
One**ANTIBIOTICS**

- No antibiotics. Use other measures to relieve symptoms.
- Determine use or limitation of antibiotics when infection occurs.
- Use antibiotics if life can be prolonged.

Additional Orders: \_\_\_\_\_

**D**Check  
One**ARTIFICIALLY ADMINISTERED NUTRITION:** Always offer food by mouth if feasible.

- No artificial nutrition by tube.
- Defined trial period of artificial nutrition by tube.
- Long-term artificial nutrition by tube.

Additional Orders: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUMMARY OF MEDICAL CONDITION AND SIGNATURES****E****Discussed with:**

- Patient
- Parent of Minor
- Health Care Representative
- Court-Appointed Guardian
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Summary of Medical Condition**

Print Physician / Nurse Practitioner Name

MD/DO/NP Phone Number

Office Use Only

Physician / NP Signature (mandatory)

Date

**SEND FORM WITH PERSON WHENEVER TRANSFERRED OR DISCHARGED**

**SEND FORM WITH PATIENT/RESIDENT WHENEVER TRANSFERRED OR DISCHARGED**

## MOLST

### Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment Do-Not-Resuscitate (DNR) and other Life-Sustaining Treatments (LST)

### “Supplemental” Documentation Form for MINORS Do-Not-Resuscitate (DNR)

This form is used only for patients/residents who are under the age of 18, are not married, and are not parents. Patients/residents under 18 who are married or are parents are treated as adults for purposes of the DNR law. If there is a question about the capacity of such an individual, contact legal counsel.

Last Name of Patient/Resident

First Name/Middle Initial of Patient/Resident

Patient/Resident Date of Birth

**NB: Actual orders should be placed on the MOLST form.** The physician is responsible for completing both the MOLST and this documentation form, and for obtaining the additional consultations / signatures where indicated. These forms must be placed in the medical record.

### Complete Steps 1-8 for “MINOR” patients/residents:

#### **Step 1: Physician determination of lack of capacity:**

**I have examined the patient/resident and his/her medical record, and in consultation with his/her parents or legal guardian, have determined that the patient/resident:**

- a. does
- b. does not

have the ability to understand and appreciate the nature and consequences of a DNR order, including benefits and burdens of such an order, and to reach an informed decision regarding the order.

## The End

---

- Are you up to the challenge?
- Additional resources follow
- CAH revised advanced directives interpretive guidelines from CMS
- Information on informed consent and organ procurement organizations (OPO)
- Additional information on advance directives for freestanding ambulatory surgery centers.

## The End! Questions???

---



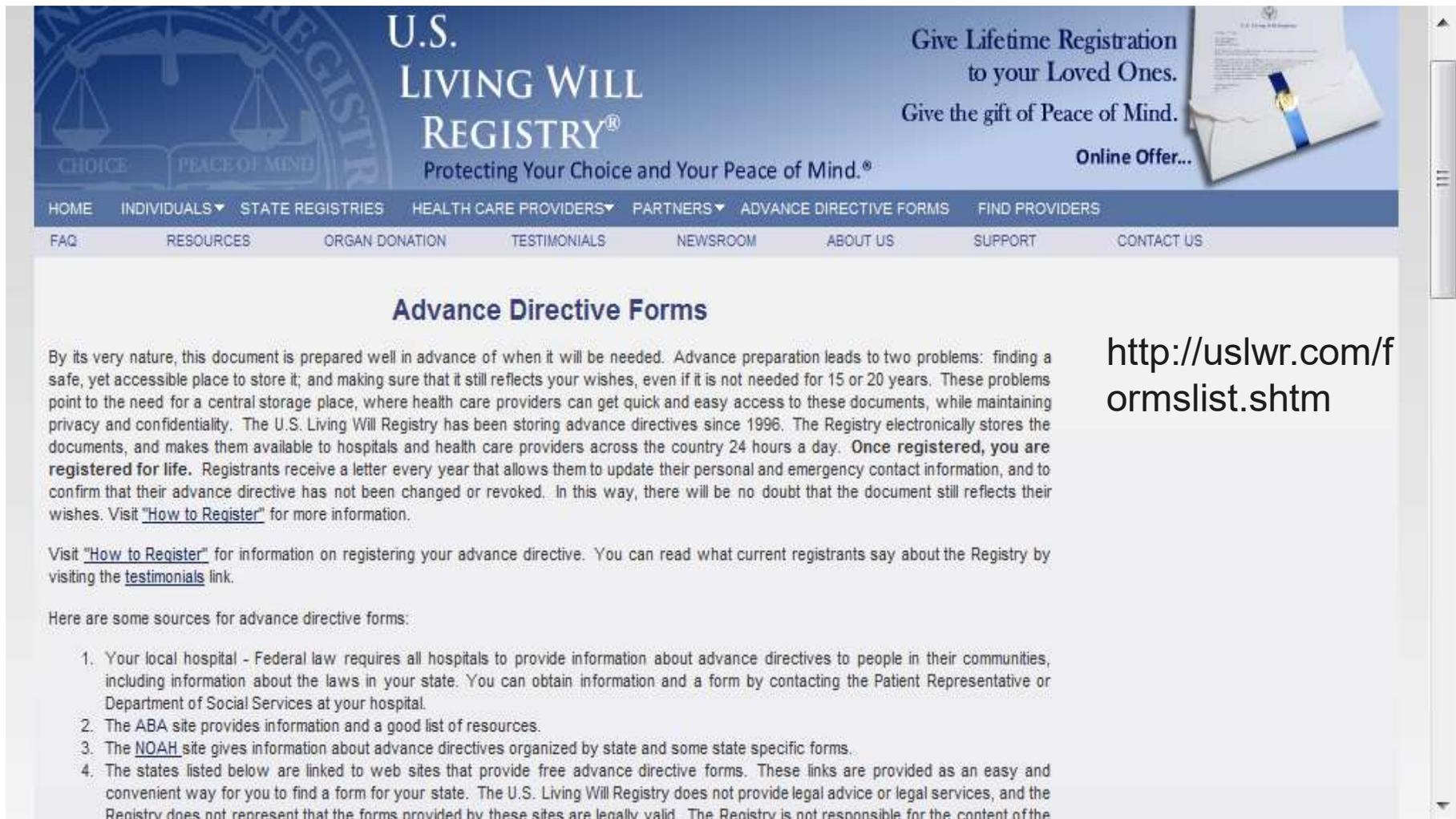
- Sue Dill Calloway RN Esq.  
CPHRM, CCMSCP, AD, BA,  
BSN, MSN, JD
- President Patient Safety and  
Healthcare Consulting
- 5447 Fawnbrook Lane  
Dublin, Ohio 43017
- 614 791-1468  
(Call with questions, no emails)
- [sdill1@columbus.rr.com](mailto:sdill1@columbus.rr.com)
- Email questions to CMS at  
[hospitalscg@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:hospitalscg@cms.hhs.gov)

**THANK YOU**

# Additional Resources



# All 50 States Forms



The screenshot shows the U.S. Living Will Registry website. The header features the logo with a scale of justice and the text "U.S. LIVING WILL REGISTRY® Protecting Your Choice and Your Peace of Mind.®". To the right, there is a promotional message: "Give Lifetime Registration to your Loved Ones. Give the gift of Peace of Mind. Online Offer..." accompanied by an image of a document in a white envelope with a blue ribbon. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: HOME, INDIVIDUALS, STATE REGISTRIES, HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS, PARTNERS, ADVANCE DIRECTIVE FORMS, FIND PROVIDERS, FAQ, RESOURCES, ORGAN DONATION, TESTIMONIALS, NEWSROOM, ABOUT US, SUPPORT, and CONTACT US.

## Advance Directive Forms

By its very nature, this document is prepared well in advance of when it will be needed. Advance preparation leads to two problems: finding a safe, yet accessible place to store it; and making sure that it still reflects your wishes, even if it is not needed for 15 or 20 years. These problems point to the need for a central storage place, where health care providers can get quick and easy access to these documents, while maintaining privacy and confidentiality. The U.S. Living Will Registry has been storing advance directives since 1996. The Registry electronically stores the documents, and makes them available to hospitals and health care providers across the country 24 hours a day. **Once registered, you are registered for life.** Registrants receive a letter every year that allows them to update their personal and emergency contact information, and to confirm that their advance directive has not been changed or revoked. In this way, there will be no doubt that the document still reflects their wishes. Visit "[How to Register](#)" for more information.

Visit "[How to Register](#)" for information on registering your advance directive. You can read what current registrants say about the Registry by visiting the [testimonials](#) link.

Here are some sources for advance directive forms:

1. Your local hospital - Federal law requires all hospitals to provide information about advance directives to people in their communities, including information about the laws in your state. You can obtain information and a form by contacting the Patient Representative or Department of Social Services at your hospital.
2. The ABA site provides information and a good list of resources.
3. The [NOAH](#) site gives information about advance directives organized by state and some state specific forms.
4. The states listed below are linked to web sites that provide free advance directive forms. These links are provided as an easy and convenient way for you to find a form for your state. The U.S. Living Will Registry does not provide legal advice or legal services, and the Registry does not represent that the forms provided by these sites are legally valid. The Registry is not responsible for the content of the

<http://uslwr.com/formslist.shtm>

# Assess to All 50 States AD Forms

4. The states listed below are linked to web sites that provide free advance directive forms. These links are provided as an easy and convenient way for you to find a form for your state. The U.S. Living Will Registry does not provide legal advice or legal services, and the Registry does not represent that the forms provided by these sites are legally valid. The Registry is not responsible for the content of the forms on these sites. State laws sometimes change, making forms obsolete. You should check with an attorney to make sure that the advance directive you prepare complies with the law in your state. Click on your state to download an advance directive form. When you click on one of the links listed below you will be leaving the U.S. Living Will Registry's web site.

[Alabama](#)  
[Alaska](#)  
[Arizona](#)  
[Arkansas](#)  
[California](#)  
[Colorado](#)  
[Connecticut](#)  
[Delaware](#)  
[District of Columbia](#)  
[Florida](#)  
[Georgia - Living Will](#)  
[Hawaii](#)  
[Idaho](#)  
[Illinois](#)  
[Indiana-Information](#)  
[Indiana-Forms](#)  
[Iowa](#)  
[Kansas](#)  
[Kentucky](#)  
[Louisiana](#)  
[Maine](#)  
[Maryland](#)  
[Massachusetts](#)  
[Michigan](#)  
[Minnesota](#)  
[Mississippi](#)  
[Missouri](#)  
[Montana](#)