

Pickerington Surgery Center

Advanced Directives

The Center's policy considers all patient's eligible for life-sustaining emergency treatment such as resuscitation and transfer to a hospital in the rare event that their medical condition deteriorates.

If a patient should provide his/her advanced directive a copy will be placed on the patient's medical record and transferred with the patient should a hospital transfer be ordered by his/her physician.

****If you have an Advance Directive, please bring a copy to the Center on the day of your procedure****

At all times the patient or his/her representative will be able to obtain any information they need to give informed consent before any treatment or procedure.

In order to assure that the community is served by this facility, information concerning advanced directives is available at the facility. To obtain this form and information, please call (614) 232-6500. Additional information is also available at <http://www.caringinfo.org/files/public/ad/Ohio.pdf>.

What are advance directives?

Advance directives are legal documents that allow people to communicate their decisions about medical care to family, friends, and health care professionals in the event that they are unable to make those decisions themselves—for example, due to being unconscious or in a coma. The two main types of advance directives are a living will and a medical power of attorney.

What is a living will?

In a living will, people indicate what kind of medical care, especially life-sustaining care, they would or would not like to receive if they become unable to speak for themselves. The most common types of care that are addressed in a living will include:

- The use of life-sustaining equipment (such as dialysis machines, ventilators, and respirators)
- “Do not resuscitate” (DNR) orders; that is, instructions not to use cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) if breathing or heartbeat stops
- Artificial hydration and nutrition (tube feeding)
- Withholding food and fluids
- Organ and tissue donation

What is a medical power of attorney?*

A medical power of attorney is the advance directive that allows people to name another person to make decisions about their medical care if they are temporarily or permanently unable to communicate or make these decisions for themselves. (This document can also be known as a “health care proxy,” “appointment of health care agent,” or “durable power of attorney for health care.”) The scope of a medical power of attorney is not limited to choices at the end of life but also includes decisions in other medical situations. Generally, with a medical power of attorney, people appoint someone they know well and trust to carry out their wishes. This person may also be known as a health care agent, surrogate, attorney-in-fact, or health care proxy. The document goes into effect when a doctor declares that a person is unable to make his or her own medical decisions.

**Adapted with permission from Understanding Advance Directives 🇺🇸. National Hospice*