



Health Care Directives

We know medical problems can be stressful for family members, especially if a patient is unable to speak. A health care directive can be a valuable planning tool that can relieve families of confusion and difficult decisions. It will help your family understand your values and beliefs and provide them with peace of mind during a difficult time.

How can you create a health care directive?

Minnesota law allows you to tell others about your health care wishes. You can use a health care directive to write down these wishes or to name a person who can make these decisions for you.

Let us know if you would like a packet on how to create a health care directive. We will talk to you about it before surgery, and you'll see information on the topic on your "Consent for Surgery and/or Invasive Procedures" form. Either you or your legal guardian will need to sign this form before surgery.

See opposite side.

Who will speak for you if you can't speak for yourself?

If you have a health care directive, bring it to the surgery center and we will add it to your CentraCare electronic health record. Please understand that we cannot in good conscience uphold your DNR/DNI request if you have one. Your admission to an outpatient surgery center implies that you will tolerate a procedure within this setting without difficulty. You will be resuscitated and transferred to a hospital if you clinically deteriorate.

For more details on health care directives, call your doctor, lawyer or Minnesota Board on Aging Senior LinkAge Line at 800-333-2433.

The Minnesota Health Care Directive form can be found on the web at: <http://www.mnaging.org/Advisor/HealthCareDirective.aspx>



CentraCare.com