



Important Decisions about Your Healthcare Choices

An Advance Care Plan may shape how you experience a period of disability or the very final stage of your life. You and your family may have to face some critical treatment choices. We **respect** your right to make individual decisions that are based on the medical information you have been given and your personal beliefs and values. You can help others respect your wishes in these circumstances if you take steps beforehand to put in place a plan that represents your personal beliefs and values.

How do you ensure that your family knows what your beliefs and values are around your medical care? One way to do this is by developing your own Advance Care Plan that represents your “values history” and a clear understanding of your health-related decisions and preferences.

Advance Care Planning

A process of decision-making done in advance of an illness or injury to plan with your family, Physicians, or spiritual leader what choices you would make if you became unable to communicate those choices for yourself. An Advance Care Plan is another term for Advance Directive or Living Will. While the content may be the same or similar, the main difference is an Advance Care Plan puts more emphasis on talking with family, physicians and spiritual advisors about your wishes. The Advance Care Plan or Advance Directive will involve important areas of healthcare such as: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Do Not Resuscitate Order (DNR), Durable Do Not Resuscitate Order (DDNR) and Living Will As well as other important aspects of healthcare management.

Once you have completed your Advance Care Plan, you should make copies of it. Keep the original and send copies to your healthcare agent(s), other family who are likely to come to your bedside at the hospital, **your primary care physician**, and the US Living Will Registry*. Keep a list of everyone who has a copy of your document **Remember: Any time you update your document, you should send an updated copy to everyone who had a copy of the old one.**

Hillcroft Physicians urges you to have this discussion with your family members and other important persons in your life so you can have a Advance Care Plan and Advance Directive in place.

Please sign below that you have read this information and understand what its message is. Thank you.

Patient Name

Date