

THE CLINIC

Advance Directives

What you should know

What is an Advance Directive?

An advance directive is a legal document, such as a living will, which would help to guide your family and your doctor if you should become terminally ill and/or unable to communicate your wishes about medical treatment.

What are your legal rights concerning directives?

Federal and state legislation assure you of the right to refuse or accept medical care. These laws also give you the right to prepare an advance directive such as a living will, medical power of attorney, or health care surrogate designation.

How can you learn more about advance directives?

Your physician or staff can provide you with more information or assistance.

Where should an advance directive be kept?

It is your responsibility to give a copy of your advance directive to your physician and to notify your family of your advance directive's location. It is also your responsibility to inform those to whom you have given copies if you change or revoke your advance directive. Keep your advance directive in a safe, convenient location at home.

By signing below, I affirm:

- I do not have an advanced directive
- I do not wish to speak with anyone about an advanced directive now, however,
- I understand that I can speak with my physician or office staff about obtaining an advanced directive at any time

Signature _____ Date _____