



ADVANCE DIRECTIVES INFORMATION SHEET

An **advance directive** is a legal document that tells your family, friends and healthcare professionals the care you would like to have if you become unable to make medical decisions. Through advance directives, you can make legally valid decisions about your future medical treatment.

You do not need a lawyer to complete your advance directives. However, you should be aware that each state has its own laws for creating advance directives.

There are three advance directives recognized in Texas:

- The **Texas Medical Power of Attorney** appoints someone to speak for you any time you are unable to make your own medical decisions, not only at the end of life. Your attending physician must certify in writing that you are unable to make health care decisions and file the certification in your medical record. If you would like more information and a copy of the Texas Medical Power of Attorney form please ask the front desk staff.
- A **living will**, officially known in Texas as the Directive to Physicians and Family or Surrogates, describes the kind of medical treatments or life-sustaining treatments you would want if you were seriously or terminally ill. A living will should be signed, dated and witnessed by two people, preferably individuals who know you well but are not related to you and are not your potential heirs or your health care providers. If you would like more information and a copy of the Directive to Physicians and Family Members form please ask the front desk staff.
- The **Out-of-Hospital Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) order** provides you with the right to withhold or withdraw cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or other treatments such as defibrillation and artificial ventilation. If you would like more information and a copy of the Texas Department of Health Services Standard Out of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate form please ask the front desk staff.

By creating an advance directive, you are making your preferences about medical care known before you're faced with a serious injury or illness. This will spare your loved ones the stress of making decisions about your care while you are sick. Any person 18 years of age or older can prepare an advance directive.

In order to make your directive legally binding, you must sign it, or direct another to sign it, in the presence of two witnesses who must also sign the document.

It is our responsibility to inform all competent adult patients about Advance Healthcare Directives and ask whether they have one in place. The staff is instructed to know the different types of advance directives. All staff members know where to direct patients who have questions or want more information about advance directives. If a patient provides an advance directive to Genesis Physicians, the physicians and staff should know the patients' decisions related to treatment.



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ADVANCE DIRECTIVES CONFIRMATION FORM

Under Texas law you have the right to make decisions concerning your healthcare. The rights include the right to accept or refuse medical treatment and the right to create advance directives to make preferences about your medical care. In the state of Texas any person age 18 years or old who is legally competent has the right to make these decisions in advance.

Advance directives recognized in Texas are the Texas Durable Medical Power of Attorney, a Living Will, and an Out of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate. No patient can be discriminated against for exercising their right to elect and create advance directives.

Advance Healthcare Directives Confirmation:

YES, I have an Advance Healthcare Directives (*select which advance directive you have below*).

- Texas Durable Medical Power of Attorney
- Living Will, officially known as the Directive to Physicians and Family or Surrogates
- Out of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)

If you have selected YES, please provide a copy of your advance directive to the front office staff.

NO, I do not have Advance Healthcare Directives (*select which advance directive you have below*). I understand that I can request more information about advance directives.

- I have received the information sheet about advance directives.
- I would like additional information about the three advance directives recognized in Texas.

Patient Name (Print)

Patient Signature

Date

For Genesis Medical Group Use Only

Complete this section, if this form is not signed and dated by the patient

____ Patient refused to sign

____ Patient unable to sign

Employee Name

Date