

ADVANCED DIRECTIVES

Ask all patients if they have an Advanced Directive. If so, be sure to get a copy for their medical record!

Living Will

- Legal Document
- Written out for instances for which a patient cannot communicate their decisions
- Includes Code Status
 - Full Code
 - DNR – Do Not Resuscitate
 - Partial DNR
- *Needed prior to injury, illness, hospitalization and/or treatment*

Medical Power of Attorney

- Legal Document
- Different than Durable Power of Attorney (DPOA)
- Designates a particular person or persons to make medical decisions for the patient
- In the absence of a MPOA, state laws dictate who makes medical decisions
- *Needed by those who may, at some point, be unable to voice their own decisions regarding medical care.*

Hospital social workers or chaplains can help patients complete Advanced Directives while they are hospitalized.