

Advanced Directives

You need 2 documents to help protect your wishes or to assume responsible caregiving for a loved one. A general 'Durable Power of Attorney' (for financial and legal matters), and an Advance Care Plan, sometimes referred to as a 'Living Will.' Your physician should be provided a copy of your Advance Care Plan, you keep a copy in your personal files where it is accessible to others, tell your closest relatives and friends what is in the document, provide a copy to person(s) you named as your health care agent.

Advanced Directives:

You may want to remain in charge of your health care even after you can no longer make decisions for yourself by creating a document called an 'Advance Care Plan'. Actual forms are available at the CMC web site: cmchealthcare.org. By clicking on: 'Information', then clicking on 'Advanced Directives', you will be able to fully view the forms which satisfy the state of Tn. You may use these or you may establish forms with your attorney, or you may choose not to have an Advance Care Plan. It is voluntary.

Since the EMS staff and the hospital need to know whether or not there is an advanced directive, and particularly an official state of Tennessee form: "Do Not Resuscitate" order, which you and your private physician prepare, these are important issues for you to consider, so that hospital staff can carry out your wishes.