

What happens if I become unable to participate in decision making and have not designated a Patient Advocate or written a Living Will?

When a patient has not provided the hospital with an Advance Directive, Beaumont's policies call for physicians and hospital staff to consider all available information including your past reliable oral statements, information about your wishes provided by family or friends, and any other written instructions from you. The hospital will look to your closest next of kin to make decisions. If there is a disagreement among family members or between family members and your physicians about what medical treatment decision is in your best interest, appointment of a Guardian by the Probate Court may be the only way a medical treatment decision can be made.

How will the hospital know if I have an Advance Directive?

Beaumont will ask you upon admission to the hospital if you have:

- Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care
- a Living Will

If you have, we will file the documents that you give us in your medical record at the hospital.

When you go to any hospital, take signed copies of your current Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care and Patient Advocate's Acceptance or your Living Will.

It is recommended that you discuss all Advance Directives with your physician prior to admission.

Where can I get more information?

While you are at Beaumont:

Please ask your nurse or attending physician for a referral to the Advance Directive Consult Team.

Other sources:

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)

601 E Street NW
Washington, DC 20049
888.687.2277
www.aarp.org

Michigan State Medical Society

120 W. Saginaw Street
East Lansing, MI 48823
517.337.1351
www.msms.org

National Hospice Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO)

(advance directives and living wills)
1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 625
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
800.658.8898
www.caringinfo.org

Beaumont®

3601 W. Thirteen Mile Road
Royal Oak, Michigan 48073-6769
248.898.5000
TDD: 248.898.1986

44201 Dequindre Road
Troy, Michigan 48085-1198
248.964.5000
TDD: 248.964.5133

468 Cadieux Road
Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230
313.343.1000
TDD: 800.649.3777

www.beaumonthospitals.com

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ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

RECORD YOUR HEALTH CARE DECISIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Beaumont®



My Successor Patient Advocate is:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

My documents are located at: _____

My primary care physician is:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

This brochure explains your right under Michigan law to make health care decisions and tells you how, under Beaumont Hospital's policies and procedures, to continue exercising this right if you become unable to participate in treatment decisions.

How will treatment decisions be made while I am able to participate?

It is Beaumont's policy to respect your decisions about whether to have medical treatment, what kind and how much. This policy includes, under most circumstances, your right as a competent adult to refuse or stop medical treatment.

You have the right to decide ahead of time about the type of medical care you want in the event you lose the ability to make or communicate your decisions. This is when your Advance Directive will be consulted by health care workers. By expressing your choice, you help guide your loved ones in making difficult decisions for you.

What is an Advance Directive?

Advance Directives document your wishes for health care treatment and your choice of a person to make decisions for you if you are unable to speak for yourself.

There are two types of Advance Directive:

- 1. Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care
- 2. Living Will

DOCUMENT 1 – DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR HEALTH CARE

Michigan law allows you, as a competent adult, to name or designate a Patient Advocate. The document by which you make this designation is called a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care.

Your Patient Advocate can make medical treatment decisions and decisions regarding your care and custody. You may also authorize your Patient Advocate

to make an anatomical gift, that is, to donate your organs, tissues or body for transplantation, research or education.

A Patient Advocate designation is effective only when you are unable to make medical treatment decisions, regardless of whether your inability to make decisions is temporary or long term. If you authorize your Patient Advocate to make an anatomical gift, the Patient Advocate may only exercise this authority immediately before or upon your death. Your Patient Advocate may not make an anatomical gift if you have already done so or expressed an unwillingness to do so.

Who should I choose to be my Patient Advocate?

Designate an adult whom you trust to act as your Patient Advocate. Fully discuss your health care wishes with the person you choose. Consider naming a successor advocate in case your first choice is unable to act as your advocate when the time comes.

What decisions will my Patient Advocate make?

Your Patient Advocate will work with your physicians and health care providers to make the same kinds of treatment decisions you could have made for yourself, based upon your wishes.

Talk with your family, friends, physician, attorney and anyone else who might be affected by your decision. After talking with your physician, consider the kinds of treatment that you might need now and in the future and what your wishes would be.

You should indicate your personal preferences regarding care, custody and medical treatment. You may wish to specify life-sustaining treatment you want or don't want, such as artificial ventilation (respirator), artificial nutrition and hydration (intravenous food and water), cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), palliative care and hospice care.

If you authorize your Patient Advocate to make decisions to withhold or withdraw treatment, thus allowing you to die, then your Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care must specifically state that. Include a statement such as *“I authorize (the name of the person you designate) to make a decision to withhold or withdraw treatment that could or would allow me to die. I acknowledge that such a decision could or would allow me to die”*

How do I designate a Patient Advocate?

The decision to appoint a Patient Advocate is voluntary. You do not need the services of an attorney to create a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care. Forms are available through many sources including Beaumont, but the use of any specific form is optional.

Your Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care document must adhere to certain guidelines. It must be in writing, dated, and signed voluntarily. Your signature must be witnessed by two individuals who are not relatives or parties interested in your will or estate. The witnesses may sign only if you are of sound mind and under no duress, fraud or undue influence. Hospital employees cannot witness your document.

Your Patient Advocate must sign an Acceptance of the designation. Give the original signed documents to your Patient Advocate (not a photocopy), and give copies to your physician and family members.

Keep a copy for yourself, and send a copy to the hospital(s) where you would expect to receive care.

What if I execute a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care but change my mind?

You may revoke the Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care at any time. If you revoke your designation, Beaumont's staff will inform your physician and Patient Advocate of the revocation and also note the revocation in your medical record.

DOCUMENT 2 – LIVING WILL

The second written document you can choose is a Living Will. Unlike a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care, a Living Will does not name anyone to make decisions for you. Instead, it lists or describes the kinds of medical treatment you wish to have or not have. It serves as a statement of your medical treatment decisions if you become terminally ill or permanently unconscious.

No specific Michigan law defines the form, content or permissible scope of a Living Will. Despite this, Beaumont's policies recognize that a Living Will made by a competent adult should be honored when it has been appropriately written and executed. We consider each Living Will individually under our policies and procedures. If you are unsure of how to fill out your Living Will, consult an attorney and/or physician.

Use the enclosed wallet card to ensure health care workers are aware of your wishes, complete the wallet card enclosed in this brochure and carry it with you at all times.



Attention Health Care Workers
I have a Health Care Advance Directive

Name: _____

Phone: _____

My Patient Advocate is: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please consult these documents in case of emergency.

Please sign