

# C.A.I.

## A Cardiovascular & Arrhythmia Institute

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### Advance Directive

An advance directive tells your doctor what kind of care you would like to have if you become unable to make medical decisions (if you are in a coma, for example). By creating an advance directive, you are making your preferences about medical care known before you're faced with a serious injury or illness. You can write an advance directive in several ways:

- Use a form if provided by your doctor.
- Write your wishes down by yourself.
- Call your health department or state department on aging to get a form.
- Call a lawyer.
- Use a computer software package for legal documents.

Advance directives and living wills do not have to be complicated legal documents. They can be short, simple statements about what you want done or not done if you can't speak for yourself. Remember, anything you write by yourself or with a computer software package should follow your state laws. You may also want to have what you have written reviewed by your doctor or a lawyer to make sure your directives are understood exactly as you intended. When you are satisfied with your directives, the orders should be notarized and copies should be given to your family and your doctor.

It is our policy to have each of our patient's Advance Directives reviewed and noted in the chart annually. Please choose from the list below and check what pertains to you.

- Discussed- No decision made
- You have a Living Will on file
- Do Not Resuscitate- please provide a copy for us to have on file
- Power of Attorney- please provide a copy for us to have on file
- Specific Advance Directive- please provide a copy for us to have on file

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness signature (employee of C.A.I.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date