



Grants Pass Clinic, L.L.P.

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

Why should you have an Advance Directive?

An Advance Directive helps ease the burden on your family and friends if you become too ill to speak for yourself. It allows you to be clear about your wishes before such an event happens.

All adults should complete an Advance Directive before they are faced with a serious illness or unexpected accident.

What is an Advance Directive?

An Advance Directive is a legal document that tells doctors and other health care workers what kind of care you want to have if you are not able to make medical decisions or speak for yourself. It also allows you to identify someone who can speak on your behalf.

What should you do?

- ◆ Talk with your family, friends, and health care provider about your wishes.
- ◆ Identify someone who can speak on your behalf in case you are not able to speak for yourself (a health care proxy).
- ◆ Complete an Advance Directive form.
- ◆ Give a **copy** of your Advance Directive to your health care provider, the hospital, and anyone else who gives you medical care.
- ◆ Keep your **original** Advance Directive in a safe place where it can be easily found.

You can access and print additional Advance Directive forms at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/DCBS/insurance/shiba/topics/Pages/advancedirectives.aspx>

Advance Directive Completion Checklist

- Either part B, part C, or both (Parts B and C) are filled out and signed by patient.
- Part D is signed by two witnesses. One witness may not be a relative (by blood, marriage, or adoption) and is not entitled to a portion of patient's estate.
- Part E is signed by the designated Health Care Representative and Alternate Health Care Representative, if patient assigns them in part B.
- Copy of Advance Directive for our records.
- Patient retains original and keeps it in a safe place.

Direct all questions about end of life decisions to patient's primary care provider.

Clinic use only

Date received:

Received by (initials):

ADVANCE DIRECTIVE

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO FILL OUT AND SIGN THIS FORM

PART A: IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ADVANCE DIRECTIVE

This is an important legal document. It can control critical decisions about your health care. Before signing, consider these important facts:

Facts About PART B (Appointing a Health Care Representative)

You have the right to name a person to direct your health care when you cannot do so. This person is called your “health care representative.” You can do this by using PART B of this form. Your representative must accept on PART E of this form.

In this document, you can write any restrictions you want on how your representative will make decisions for you. Your representative must follow your desires as stated in this document or otherwise made known. If your desires are unknown, your representative must try to act in your best interest. Your representative can resign at any time.

Facts About PART C (Giving Health Care Instruction)

You also have the right to give instructions for health care providers to follow if you become unable to direct your care. You can do this by using PART C of this form.

Facts About Completing This Form

This form is valid only if you sign it voluntarily and when you are of sound mind. If you do not want an advance directive, you do not have to sign this form.

Unless you have limited the duration of this directive, it will not expire. If you have set an expiration date, and you become unable to direct your health care before that date, this advance directive will not expire until you are able to make those decisions again.

You may revoke this document at any time. To do so, notify your representative and your health care provider of the revocation.

Despite this document, you have the right to decide your own health care as long as you are able to do so.

If there is anything in this document that you do not understand, ask a lawyer to explain it to you.

You may sign PART B, PART C, or both parts. You may cross out words that don’t express your wishes or add words that better express your wishes. Witnesses must sign PART D.

Print your NAME, BIRTHDATE, and ADDRESS here:

(Name)

(Birthdate)

(Address)

Unless revoked or suspended, this advance directive will continue for:

INITIAL ONE:

_____ My entire life

_____ Other period (_____ Years)

PART B: APPOINTMENT OF HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE

I appoint _____ as my health care representative.

My representative's address is _____

and telephone number is _____.

I appoint _____ as my alternate health care

representative. My alternate's address is _____

and telephone number is _____.

I authorize my representative (or alternate) to direct my health care when I can't do so.

NOTE: You may not appoint your doctor, an employee of your doctor, or an owner, operator or employee of your health care facility, unless that person is related to you by blood, marriage or adoption, or that person was appointed before your admission into the health care facility.

PART B: APPOINTMENT OF HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE (CONTINUED)

1. Limits.

Special Conditions or Instructions: _____

INITIAL IF THIS APPLIES:

_____ I have executed a Health Care Instruction or Directive to Physicians. My representative is to honor it.

2. Life Support.

“Life support” refers to any medical means for maintaining life, including procedures, devices and medications. If you refuse life support, you will still get routine measures to keep you clean and comfortable.

INITIAL IF THIS APPLIES:

_____ My representative MAY decide about life support for me. (If you don’t initial this space, then your representative MAY NOT decide about life support.)

3. Tube Feeding.

One sort of life support is food and water supplied artificially by medical device, known as tube feeding.

INITIAL IF THIS APPLIES:

_____ My representative MAY decide about tube feeding for me. (If you don’t initial this space, then your representative MAY NOT decide about tube feeding.)

(Date)

SIGN HERE TO APPOINT A HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE

(Signature of person making appointment)

PART C: HEALTH CARE INSTRUCTIONS

NOTE: In filling out these instructions, keep the following in mind:

- The term “as my physician recommends” means that you want your physician to try life support if your physician believes it could be helpful and then discontinue it if it is not helping your health condition or symptoms.
- “Life support” and “tube feeding” are defined in PART B above.
- If you refuse tube feeding, you should understand that malnutrition, dehydration and death will probably result.
- You will get care for your comfort and cleanliness, no matter what choices you make.
- You may either give specific instructions by filling out Items 1 to 4 below, or you may use the general instruction provided by Item 5.

Here are my desires about my health care if my doctor and another knowledgeable doctor confirm that I am in a medical condition described below:

1. Close to Death. If I am close to death and life support would only postpone that moment of my death:

A. INITIAL ONE:

- _____ I want to receive tube feeding.
_____ I want tube feeding only as my physician recommends.
_____ I DO NOT WANT tube feeding.

B. INITIAL ONE:

- _____ I want any other life support that may apply.
_____ I want life support only as my physician recommends.
_____ I want NO life support.

2. Permanently Unconscious. If I am unconscious and it is very unlikely that I will ever become conscious again:

A. INITIAL ONE:

- _____ I want to receive tube feeding.
_____ I want tube feeding only as my physician recommends.
_____ I DO NOT WANT tube feeding.

B. INITIAL ONE:

- _____ I want any other life support that may apply.
_____ I want life support only as my physician recommends.
_____ I want NO life support.

PART C: HEALTH CARE INSTRUCTIONS (CONTINUED)

3. Advanced Progressive Illness. If I have a progressive illness that will be fatal and is in an advanced stage, and I am consistently and permanently unable to communicate by any means, swallow food and water safely, care for myself and recognize my family and other people, and it is very unlikely that my condition will substantially improve:

A. INITIAL ONE:

- _____ I want to receive tube feeding.
_____ I want tube feeding only as my physician recommends.
_____ I DO NOT WANT tube feeding.

B. INITIAL ONE:

- _____ I want any other life support that may apply.
_____ I want life support only as my physician recommends.
_____ I want NO life support.

4. Extraordinary Suffering. If life support would not help my medical condition and would make me suffer permanent and severe pain:

A. INITIAL ONE:

- _____ I want to receive tube feeding.
_____ I want tube feeding only as my physician recommends.
_____ I DO NOT WANT tube feeding.

B. INITIAL ONE:

- _____ I want any other life support that may apply.
_____ I want life support only as my physician recommends.
_____ I want NO life support.

5. General Instruction.

INITIAL IF THIS APPLIES:

_____ I do not want my life to be prolonged by life support. I also do not want tube feeding as life support. I want my doctors to allow me to die naturally if my doctor and another knowledgeable doctor confirm I am in any of the medical conditions listed in Items 1 to 4 above.

6. Additional Conditions or Instructions. (Insert description of what you want done.)

PART C: HEALTH CARE INSTRUCTIONS (CONTINUED)

7. Other Documents. A “health care power of attorney” is any document you may have signed to appoint a representative to make health care decisions for you.

INITIAL ONE:

_____ I have previously signed a health care power of attorney. I want it to remain in effect unless I appointed a health care representative after signing the health care power of attorney.

_____ I have a health care power of attorney, and I REVOKE IT.

_____ I DO NOT have a health care power of attorney.

(Date)

SIGN HERE TO GIVE INSTRUCTIONS

(Signature)

PART D: DECLARATION OF WITNESSES

We declare that the person signing this advance directive:

- (a) Is personally known to us or has provided proof of identity;
- (b) Signed or acknowledged that person’s signature on the advance directive in our presence;
- (c) Appears to be of sound mind and not under duress, fraud or undue influence;
- (d) Has not appointed either of us as health care representative or alternative representative;
and
- (e) Is not a patient for whom either of us is attending physician.

Witnessed By:

(Signature of Witness/Date)

(Printed Name of Witness)

(Signature of Witness/Date)

(Printed Name of Witness)

NOTE: One witness must not be a relative (by blood, marriage or adoption) of the person signing this advance directive. That witness must also not be entitled to any portion of the person’s estate upon death. That witness must also not own, operate or be employed at a health care facility where the person is a patient or resident.

PART E: ACCEPTANCE BY HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE

I accept this appointment and agree to serve as health care representative. I understand I must act consistently with the desires of the person I represent, as expressed in this advance directive or otherwise made known to me. If I do not know the desires of the person I represent, I have a duty to act in what I believe in good faith to be that person's best interest. I understand that this document allows me to decide about that person's health care only while that person cannot do so. I understand that the person who appointed me may revoke this appointment. If I learn that this document has been suspended or revoked, I will inform the person's current health care provider if known to me.

(Signature of Health Care Representative/Date)

(Printed Name)

(Signature of Alternate Health Care Representative/Date)

(Printed Name)

You've filled out your Advance Directive, now what?



Here are some things to remember:

- ◆ Think of who might be involved in your healthcare and who is likely to be physically with you in the event that something happens. These are the people who should have a copy of your Advance Directive. Some examples of these people might include both of your healthcare representatives, your primary care provider, nearby hospitals, clergy, your attorney (if you have one), your close friends, and/or relatives.
- ◆ Your Oregon Advance Directive is an important legal document. While others will need a copy of your Advance Directive, be sure to keep the original in a safe place.
- ◆ Be sure to have a conversation with your healthcare representatives, friends, and family about your decisions and the reasons behind them. In addition to helping them understand why you made the choices that you did, you may be helping them feel comfortable about making their own decisions!
- ◆ If you have the capability to save the document electronically, you may want to do that as well.
- ◆ You may make changes to your Advance Directive at any time; however, once the document is signed and witnessed you must complete an entirely new form to reflect any changes. The new form will also need to be signed and witnessed before it is valid.
- ◆ You are able to revoke your Oregon Advance Directive at any time.
- ◆ Josephine and Jackson County paramedics and EMT's are **REQUIRED** to start resuscitation measures **unless** they receive separate instruction (verbally or in writing) that tells them otherwise.
- ◆ A written order that outlines specific, end of life-type orders (do not resuscitate/DNR, etc.) is often referred to as a POLST (Physician Order for Life-Sustaining Treatment). This is usually a bright pink colored form that you fill out with your healthcare provider and is registered with the State of Oregon. This is a different and separate document from the Advance Directive form.

Additional Resources

Information on the Oregon POLST Program

Website:

<http://www.orpolstregistry.org/>

Phone: 1-877-367-7657

Information on Oregon Advance Directives

Website:

<http://www.oregon.gov/DCBS/insurance/shiba/topics/Pages/advancedirectives.aspx>