

Patient Rights: Living Will/Advanced Directives

Policy

It is the policy of Children's Surgery Center that any Advance Directive(s) presented by a patient at the time of treatment **will not be honored** by the Center.

Philosophy

Children's Surgery Center encourages patients to create Advance Directives and has available information about how to execute an Advance Directive. If the patient produces a copy of his/her Advance Directive, we will include the document in a prominent place in the patient's chart.

The patients who are scheduled for surgery at Children's Surgery Center are presumed to be capable of undergoing the necessary anesthesia and surgical procedure that is performed at Children's Surgery Center.

Given the parameters that we use and the expected outcome of a successfully completed operative procedure, all-reasonable efforts will be made to resuscitate every patient at Children's Surgery Center regardless of the statement in his/her Living Will or Advance Directives.

As soon as practical, after resuscitating the patient and transferring the patient to a more appropriate health care facility, the stipulations of the Advance Directives will be respected and carried out.

Procedure

1. Patients are asked preoperatively to bring their Advance Directive with them when they come to the Center during the preoperative telephone interview.
2. If during the interview process a patient verifies that he/she has implemented Advance Directive they will be informed of Children's Surgery Center's policy to make every effort to resuscitate them.
3. Patient provides his/her Advance Directive at the time of admission.
4. Copies of the Advance Directive are made and the originals are returned to the patient.
5. Copies are placed in the front of the patient's medical record and those responsible for his care are informed.

6. If it is necessary to resuscitate the patient he/she will be transferred to a more appropriate health care facility as soon as possible and notified of the patient's Advance Directive.
7. At the time of admission those patients who have not executed an Advance Directive will be provided with a brochure regarding Advance Directive, information on living will and durable power of attorney forms; on request.
8. Patient will complete the Advance Directive consent form at time of Preregistration and a copy will be placed on the chart and the patient will also be given a copy.

