

The Center for Special Surgery at Hawthorne
ADVANCE DIRECTIVES - LIVING WILL

Affix patient sticker here.

On January 11,1992, a New Jersey law took effect which mandates that all health care facilities ask patients whether they have an Advance Directive or Living Will. At the Center For Special Surgery we have made this part of our admitting process. Your doctor should have inquired about this issue at his/her office and instructed you to bring a copy of your Advance Directive or Living Will today. During our pre op call our staff member also instructed you on this matter.

An Advance Directive or Living Will is used by an individual to indicate their voluntary, informed choice of accepting, rejecting, or choosing among alternative courses of medical treatment. An Advance Directive or Living Will is a document which allows you to give written instruction to those caring for you indicating the type of health care you would wish to receive or reject in the event you become unable to express these decisions yourself. New Jersey has two kinds of advance directives. It is your decision whether to have both kinds or to just have one of them:

1. Proxy Directive (Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare)- This is a document in which a competent adult names a trusted relative or friend to make health care decisions on their behalf when they are unable to make these decisions.
2. Instruction Directive (Living Will)- In this document, the person writing it provides written instructions concerning the type of medical treatment they want or do not want performed for them and under what circumstances.

A brochure containing living will information is available from the Division of Aging. If you wish to receive the brochure, please make your request to:

Division of Aging Services
New Jersey Department of Human Services
P.O. Box 715
Trenton, NJ 08625-0715

Do you have an Advance Directive or Living Will? yes no

If yes, did you bring it today? yes no

An Advance Directive/Living Will was offered to you and you have accepted rejected

The Center does not directly honor Advance Directive/Living Wills at our facility as we generally care for healthy non-terminal patients. If however, there be any unforeseen complications during the surgery our medical staff will make every effort to stabilize the patient for transfer to a local hospital. Any Living wills will be forwarded with the complete patient chart for use at the hospital.

Patients Signature indicating awareness of above: _____

Date:_____ Witness Signature: _____