

YOUR CHOICES:

- Medical Science has grown over the last thirty years. Doctors have found new and better ways to help patients who have health problems. Because of these new findings patients have more choices when deciding what type of care is best for them.
- Your medical care can now include breathing machines (ventilators), kidney machines (dialysis), feeding with tubes, and CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). Knowing about these options, you can decide what care you would like if something happens to you or a loved one. You may want all types of care used or you may not want anything except to have your pain controlled so that you can live the rest of your life comfortably.
- You can accept the medical care offered or you can reject it. This is your right. Whatever you choose to do, the doctors and nurses are there to help you.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE:

- You may not be able to make a decision in the future because of an illness or injury, so you should think now about the type of care you would like.
- You should talk with your family and your doctor about your wishes. Your doctor can help you by telling you what is available. In case something does happen, your doctor and family know what care you want.

ADVANCED DIRECTIVES:

- There are two types of advance directives that you can use. These papers are called the Medical Power of Attorney and the Living Will.
- A copy of our Advanced Directive Policy will be available for your review at the time of registration.

MEDICAL POWER OF ATTORNEY:

- A Medical Power of Attorney is someone who you trust to make decisions for you. This person will share your instructions with your doctor. They can be your spouse, a parent, an adult child or a friend.

This person will only be used if you are unable to make decisions for yourself.

LIVING WILL:

- A Living Will states your wishes about the medical care you want. This will only be used if you are unable to make decisions at that time. This paper can be general or it can be detailed. This legal paper helps the doctor know and follow your wishes. If you would like to change any part of these forms you should tell your doctor so that the changes can be made.

**Southwestern Endoscopy Center
302 Spring Creek Lane
Uniontown, PA 15401**

724-439-8906

SUBJECT: ADVANCED DIRECTIVES

POLICY:

It is the policy of Southwestern Endoscopy Center that patients will be informed about the availability of Advanced Directive information and the current status of patient's Advanced Directives will be documented with each individual encounter.

To provide continuity of care with consideration of patient's existing Advanced Directives.

PROCEDURE:

1. The patient or, as appropriate, the patient's representative is provided via pre-procedure mailing with information concerning the facilities policies/information on advance directives.
2. Upon registration the office associate/designee will question each patient about the existence of any Advanced Directives.
3. Advance Directives will be documented on the Southwestern Endoscopy Center Encounter Form.
4. A Copy of Advance Directives will be added to Patient Medical Records when provided by the patient and placed under the anesthesia tab.
5. Patients who provide a copy of an Advance Directive will be given for review and signature, Southwestern Endoscopy Centers Advanced Directives Policy which documents the patient's advance directive will not be implemented while the patient is at the facility due to patients at Southwestern Endoscopy Center are pre-screened to limit the possibility of the need for resuscitation.
6. Should a resuscitation occur, the Southwestern Endoscopy Center will transfer the patient when stable. A copy of their Living Will or Advance Directive will be part of the transfer packet to the transferring hospital.