

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER –
SHREVEPORT

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES POLICY

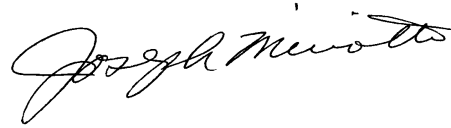
Purpose:

To define the rights of patients to establish decisions concerning their medical and psychiatric care, including the right to formulate Advance Directives.

Policy:

1. **Definition** - Advance Directives are defined as living wills, healthcare power of attorney, or other instructions of a patient about their medical and psychiatric care.
2. For all adult inpatients, Admitting personnel ascertain whether patients' have designated a medical decision maker. This information is documented on the admit form (SN 1175). A patient handbook containing advance directive information is provided to the patient upon admission. Exception: Outpatient surgery staff complete this information with their patients.
3. Inquiry is made of all adult patients as to whether they possess or wish to execute an Advance Directive. This information is obtained and documented on admission by the registered nurse who completes the Patient History/Assessment and Discharge Record or other approved unit specific admission form. This information is obtained and documented on the ambulatory care record by the nurse during the initial clinic visit.
4. If the patient has an Advance Directive, the inpatient registered nurse or ambulatory care nurse will notify the patient's primary physician that the patient has an Advance Directive and ask the patient and/or family to bring the Advance Directive as soon as possible for placement on the medical record.
5. If the patient requests further information on executing or revising an Advance Directive, the nurse may consult case management to assist with additional information and/or execution of the directive. If case manager is not available, the inpatient registered nurse or ambulatory care nurse shall review the Advance Directive contents of the Patient Handbook with the patient and/or family; if more information is requested, the patient/family will be given a copy of "Five Wishes" brochure.

6. If an Advance Directive is executed by the patient, the Case Manager/Nurse shall place it in the patient's medical record and contact the unit registered nurse or clinic nurse. The nurse shall then contact the patient's primary physician so that appropriate planning of care may be accomplished.
7. Refer to Hospital Policies 5.21 "Withholding or Withdrawal of Life Sustaining Treatment" or 5.19 "Do Not Resuscitate" for additional information.



Administrator

Date 10/20/11

Approved by Clinical Board: 10/16/01, 6/18/02, 7/19/05, 1/20/09, 10/18/11
Written: 6/92
Revised: 8/92, 6/95, 5/00, 1/01, 9/01, 10/01, 5/02, 5/05, 11/08
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