

SUBJECT: DIRECTIVES FOR RESUSCITATION	REFERENCE #10008
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	REVISED:

POLICY:

_____ Hospital shall provide a continuum of care from birth to death with respect for life and dignity at each stage of the human experience. _____ Hospital respects the rights of the patient to make decisions regarding the extent of resuscitation they wish to have performed.

PROCEDURE:

- At the time of admission, all patients will be given the opportunity to make a decision in regard to the extent of resuscitation they wish to have performed.
- The admitting nurse will present to the patient the Directives for Resuscitation Form. Patients will be given the opportunity to read the form and ask any questions they feel necessary prior to completing the form.
- The patient may choose not to make a decision at the time the form is presented. He/she should then be informed that all resuscitative efforts will be performed. The nurse shall write on the form that the patient is unable to make a decision.
- This form is not binding and may be changed at the patient’s discretion. In the event that the patient changes his/her wishes, the original shall be crossed out with a diagonal line through the entire form and retained on the chart. A new form shall then be completed.
- In the event that the patient is incapacitated (unable to make a decision by virtue of physical or mental condition), the person holding Durable Power of Attorney shall be presented with the Directives for Resuscitation Form and given the opportunity to make the decision.
- The patient advocate has a responsibility to ensure that the intent of the patient for resuscitation is fulfilled. Therefore, all attempts shall be made to determine the intent of the patient if the patient is incapacitated at the time of admission. This should include contacting family members or the designated surrogate holding Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare and reviewing previous medical records.

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- In the event that the patient is incapacitated and a surrogate decision maker is not identified or there is a conflict between family members in regard to directives without clear knowledge of patient intent, the issue shall be directed to the Ethics Committee.
- Advance directives from extended care facilities and pre-hospital DNRs shall be honored by _____ Hospital. In the event the advance directives are challenged by the family members, the issue shall be directed to the Ethics Committee.