

HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVES AND DO NOT RESUSITATE ORDERS

It is the policy of the Wauwatosa Surgery Center not to honor Advance Directives. It is also the policy not to honor Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders from Physicians who are not credentialed at the center.

DEFINITIONS

Advance Directive: A written tool used to guide health care decisions when an individual is unable to do so because of incapacity. Most people are familiar with the terms “Living Will” or “Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care” as types of advanced directives.

Do Not Resuscitate Orders: An order written by a physician for no resuscitative measures to be done when an end of life event occurs.

PROCEDURE

1. During the pre-operative call, or at the time of admission, all legal adults will be asked if they have an Advance Directive.
2. Patients that answer “yes” will be informed that the center does not honor Advanced Directives. They will also be informed that if an event occurs that requires resuscitation, they will be transferred to a hospital where further testing can occur to determine if it is an end of life event.
3. If a patient disagrees with this, they may choose to seek care in an alternative healthcare setting.
4. If a patient says “no, they do not have an Advance Directive”, they will be informed that they may request information about Advanced Directives when they are at the center.