



AlohaCare
For a healthy Hawaii.

What is an Advance Directive?

You have the right to make your own health care decisions. An Advance Directive lets you express your wishes about the health care you want provided if you are no longer able to decide for yourself. It also allows you to name a person to make health care decisions for you.

Why should you have an Advance Directive?

- Let your doctor and family know your wishes about health care and mental health care in advance.
- Let your wishes for health care be known when you are incapacitated.
- Someone else will have to make critical choices about your treatment if you do not have an Advance Directive and it may not be what you would have decided.

Do you need to have an Advance Directive?

No. AlohaCare cannot refuse care or otherwise discriminate against you based on whether or not you have an Advance Directive. You will still receive the quality health care you are entitled to as an AlohaCare member.

What do you do with your Advance Directive?

- Discuss your wishes with your family and physician and provide a copy to your spouse and/or the person you assign to make decisions for you.
- Keep it in a safe place.
- Provide a copy to your doctors and hospital to be placed in your medical record.

Can you make changes to your Advance Directive?

Yes, you have the right to revoke or replace your Advance Directive at anytime. Be sure to provide your health care provider with notice of any change in your wishes.

The Right to File a Complaint.

You have the right to file a complaint if your advance directive wishes are not followed. Send your complaint to:

**Office of Health Care Assurance
Medicare Section**

601 Kamokila Blvd. Rm 395
Kapolei, HI 96707

What does the law say about Advance Directives?

In Hawaii, the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (Modified) and the Advance Mental Health Care Directive Act outline the state laws regarding advance health care decisions. There are two alternative ways to have your Advance Directive witnessed for it to be valid. You may have it signed by two qualified adult witnesses who are personally known to you and who are present when you sign or acknowledge your signature. These witnesses cannot be related to you, a health care provider, nor entitled to any part of your estate. The second alternative is acknowledgement before a notary public in the state.

Where can I get an Advance Directive Form?

There are several resources on the internet.

- www.caringinfo.org (Click on "Hawaii")
- www.aha.org (Click on "Put It In Writing")
- www.HawaiiDisabilityRights.org

Your doctor or your hospital may also provide you with a copy of an Advance Directive form.

AlohaCare

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