

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY

★ *your decisions matter* ★

April 16th

NHDD is a collaborative effort with national, state and community organizations committed to ensuring that all adults with decision making capacity in the United States have the information and opportunity to communicate and document their healthcare decisions.

NHDD is supported by 61 national organizations, such as:

AARP

American Bar Association

American College of Physicians

American Hospital Association

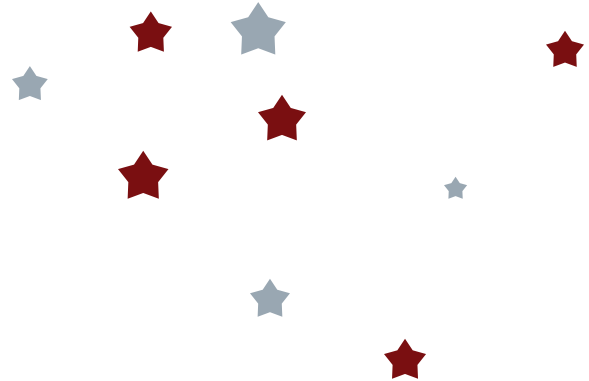
American Nurses Association

Association of Professional Chaplains

National Hospice and Palliative Care Association

Social Worker Hospice and Palliative Care Network

Department of Health and Human Services



Lakeland Regional Medical Center (LRMC): <http://lrmc.com/patients-visitors/>

The hospital's site for advance directives, or planning for future healthcare decisions.

This resource offers basic definitions and explains the importance of planning for end-of-life decisions. It contains a printable versions of the hospital's advance directive form.

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP): www.aarp.org

A thorough website with many different resources for the consumer and the professional.

Type "Advance Directives" on search bar to pull up many AARP bulletins on Advance Directives/Living Wills. The site provides all of the important resources on planning for finances at the end of life, hospice care and advance care planning documents (to provide direction to loved ones regarding end of life issues).

Aging with Dignity: www.agingwithdignity.org

This site is the place to find out everything you need to know about the document entitled 5 Wishes, which is an advance directive type tool that helps you plan for end of life issues. This document is unique in that it addresses medical, personal, emotional and spiritual needs. 5 Wishes lets your family and doctors know: which person you want to make health care decisions for you when you cant make them, the kind of medical treatment you want or dont want, how comfortable you want to be, how you want people to treat you and what you want your loved ones to know. 5 Wishes is comprehensive and helpful in many ways.



Caring Connections: www.caringinfo.org

A website sponsored by National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

Click on the “Planning Ahead” tab to find excellent basic information, with pages entitled: “Life Planning, Dealing with Illness, and Grieving a Loss.” It offers significant help in having discussions with loved ones about important issues. Contained on the site are state specific Living Wills and Healthcare Powers of Attorney.

Center for Practical Bioethics: www.practicalbioethics.org

A healthcare think-tank that addresses multiple issues related to the delivery of health care.

On this site, there are pamphlets and other materials for sale that encourage planning for medical decisions. “Caring Conversations” incorporates life review to help give patients and caregivers a better foundation for the choices they want to make.

Put It In Writing: www.putitinwriting.org

A website sponsored by the American Hospital Association, available in both Spanish and English.

This helpful source of information encourages readers to talk with their families, friends and doctors, to know the options and decide what is right for them and then ... put it in writing. They define an advance directive as “your life on your terms.” The site also has many links to other organizations: the American Bar Association, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the Institute for Health Care Advancement.

American Bar Association (ABA): www.abanet.org/aging/toolkit/

Information from the ABA’s Commission on Law and Aging.

Good advance planning for health care decisions is, in reality, a continuing conversation - about values, priorities, the meaning of one’s life, and quality of life. To help you in this process, this tool kit contains a variety of self-help worksheets, suggestions, and resources. There are 10 tools in all, each clearly labeled and user-friendly. The tool kit does not create a formal advance directive for you. Instead, it helps you do the much harder job of discovering, clarifying, and communicating what is important to you in the face of serious illness.

For additional information, you are encouraged to speak to any of the following:

- Your personal priest, pastor or spiritual leader
- Your personal attorney or legal advisor
- LRMC Pastoral Care department (863-687-1247)