



Rehoboth McKinley
Christian Health Care Services

Advance Medical Directive

What is an Advance Medical Directive? Why Do I Need One?

An Advance Medical Directive is a form that lets you plan ahead for the care you would want if you could no longer express your wishes. This form allows you to outline the medical treatment you would or would not want and/or names the person you would like to make health care decisions for you.

An Advance Medical Directive is important whether you are young or old. Injury or illness can strike at any age. New Mexico's Advance Medical Directives include both a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care and Instructions for Healthcare.

A Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care

- This form lets you name someone to be your agent, or spokesperson.
- Your agent can decide on treatment for you only when you can't speak for yourself.
- You do not need to be at the end of your life. He or she could speak for you if you were in a coma but were likely to recover.

Instructions for Healthcare

- This form lets you list the medical care you want if you can no longer express your wishes.
- It applies only if you won't live without medical treatment. For example, it would apply if you had advanced cancer or a massive stroke.
- It takes effect only when you can no longer express your wishes yourself.

For more information about Advance Medical Directives or for help to complete one, please call the RMCHCS Chaplain at 505-863-7140

RMCHCS honors Advance Medical Directives for inpatients and outpatients in accordance with law and regulation and the hospital's capabilities.