

LAMB PLASTIC SURGERY CENTER
Policy/Procedure

Category Title: Advance Medical Directives

Effective date: January 2010/Revised May 2023

Subject: Advance Medical Directives

I. POLICY

Patients will be informed of his/her right to make informed decisions regarding his/her medical care as applies to advance medical directives prior to the date of surgical services. Patients will be informed that all patients at LPSC are considered code level I (all available reasonable technology is used in the event of cardiac and/or respiratory arrest). Therefore, advance medical directives are suspended during the patient's stay at LPSC. Resuscitation will be initiated and continued until transfer to an admitting hospital (Sanford) is complete. A copy of the patient's advance medical directives will accompany the patient on transfer. A code level II (no intervention will be made in the event of a cardiac and/or respiratory arrest) must be written as a physician order after discussion with the patient and the patient's family.

II. PURPOSE

To ensure that all patients receiving surgical services at LPSC are aware of advance medical directives and LPSC policy regarding advance medical directives prior to the date of surgical services.

Authorized Personnel: All Center Personnel

III. PROCEDURE

1. All patients consulting for potential surgical services at LPSC will be asked if they have advance medical directives in place at the time of the consult. If not, they are offered information on how to complete an advance directive.
2. At least one week prior to surgery date, during pre-operative phone call, the RN will ask the patient whether he or she has an advance directive. If advance medical directives are already in place, patients will be asked to bring a copy to LPSC on the morning of surgery to be filed in the patient chart.
3. If the patient does not have advance medical directives already in place, the RN asks whether the patient would like us to email or mail advance directive information and/or the advance directive form.
4. The morning of surgery, the RN will ask the patient whether he or she has an advance directive and if they brought it along to LPSC. If yes, it will be marked on the admitting documents, and a copy placed in the patient chart. If no, the patient will be asked if they would like information and/or forms on advance medical directives. It will be notated in the patient chart whether patient was given the information or declined it.

Administrative Approval: Dr. P.W. Lamb
Accountable Party: Chasity Jung, RN