

# HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVES

## **We encourage you to make personal decisions about your health care.**

We ask all patients if they have a health care directive. Let us know if you would like an information packet on health care directives. Once you fill out the health care directive, send it to us. We would be happy to add your directive to the CentraCare Health electronic health record. We will talk to you more about this before surgery. This information also will be on the “Consent for Surgery and/or Invasive Procedures” form. Either you or your legal guardian will need to sign this form before surgery.

We wish to provide you with the best care possible before, during and after surgery. It is our policy that if an adverse event occurs during your stay, based on reasons of conscience, all reasonable efforts will be taken to revive you, including resuscitative or other stabilizing measures, regardless of the contents of any health care directive/living will/health care proxy or instructions from a health care agent.

Minnesota law allows you to inform others of your health care wishes. You have the right to state your wishes or appoint an agent in writing so that others will know what you want if you cannot tell them because of illness or injury.

For more details on health care directives, call your doctor, lawyer or Minnesota Board on Aging Senior LinkAge Line at **800-333-2433**.

The Minnesota Health Care Directive form can be found on the web at:  
<http://www.mnaging.org/Advisor/HealthCareDirective.aspx>

## **You can change or cancel your health care directive at any time by:**

- Destroying it
- Directing that it be destroyed
- Writing in and dating changes
- Revoking the document. You can verbally cancel the directive, in whole or in part, in front of two witnesses. These witnesses do not need to be present at the same time.
- Signing a new health care directive.

Let us know if you cancel or change your health care directive. We will remove it from your health record. We will then replace it with any new health care directive.