

Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission (MSSAC) supports consumers' rights to their own choices for Advanced Directives where the 42 C.F.R. 422.128 law allows.

This pamphlet will help you with what your choices are in this area and where to get help.

If you need any help with this information, you may contact your treatment staff worker or call any number listed at the end of this pamphlet.

Medical Advance Directive

What is a Medical Advance Directive?

A medical advance directive is a legal document that tells healthcare providers what your medical treatment choices are during certain medical emergencies. You create a medical advance directive before a medical emergency happens. Then, if there is an emergency where you are not able to say what treatment you do/do not want, the medical advance directive would state your wishes.

Who Can Have a Medical Advance Directive?

In Michigan, an adult "of sound mind" may have a medical advance directive. So if you have a guardian, or the court finds you are not able to make your own treatment decisions, you would not be able to have an advance directive. *Michigan law states certain people may not witness an advance directive on your behalf.* This includes

guardians, spouses, other family members, healthcare workers or anyone who would get gifts/income at your death.

How Would I Create A Medical Advance Directive?

There are forms you may use to write a medical advance directive. Your case manager or supports coordinator may help you with forms or help to create one.

What is A "Durable Power of Attorney"?

A Durable Power of Attorney is a phrase often used with medical advance directives. When you create an advance directive, you may also name who has the power to make decisions for you when you are not able to make decisions for yourself. This person is called an "*Agent*" or a "*Patient Advocate*". A Durable Power of Attorney is a medical advance directive that states who your Patient Advocate/Agent is and what types of decisions he/she can make.

What is a Patient Advocate?

A patient advocate is the person you identify in your advance directive as the one who may make decisions about your medical or psychiatric care if you become unable to make medical or psychiatric care decisions for yourself.

Who Can Be My Patient Advocate?

Anyone who is 18 years or older, does not have a guardian, and competent may be a patient advocate.

Do I Have to Have a Patient Advocate?

In most states, an advance directive is only

valid if you have named a patient advocate/agent. So it is best to name one whenever possible.

Psychiatric Advance Directive

What is a Psychiatric Advance Directive?

A psychiatric advance directive is a legal document that tells healthcare providers what your treatment choices are during certain psychiatric emergencies. You create a psychiatric advance directive before an emergency happens. Then, if there is a psychiatric emergency where you are not able to say what treatment you do or do not want, the psychiatric advance directive would explain your wishes.

Who Can Have a Psychiatric Advanced Directive?

In Michigan, an adult "of sound mind" may have his/her own psychiatric advance directive. So if you have a guardian or the court finds you are not able to make your own treatment decisions, you would not be able to have an advance directive. *Michigan law states certain people may not make an advance directive on your behalf.* This includes guardians, spouses, other family members, healthcare workers and anyone who would get some type of gift/income at the time of your death.

How Would I Create A Psychiatric Advance Directive?

There are forms you may use to write a psychiatric advance directive. Your case manager or supports coordinator may help you with getting information you need to

create one.

If I Want a Medical Advance Directive and a Psychiatric Advance Directive, Can I Make One Document?

Yes. Or you may decide to have one or the other, or no durable power at all.

Michigan law requires that any Advance Directive is signed by witnesses: not immediate family members, not your doctor or patient advocate, and not an employee of a hospital or community mental health program where you are a patient or client. You may have friends, people you know, or neighbors, for instance, sign as witnesses. It does not require a signature by a notary.

Important Things For You to Know

Any of these papers may be a permanent part of your clinical record. If you want them in your record, make sure your staff worker has a copy.

If your staff worker has any part in your advance directive, a copy of your plan must be in your clinical record.

Make sure your staff worker has the most current copy of your advanced directive.

You may change or cancel your advance directive at any time.

It is important that you tell your staff worker of any changes in the advance directive or DNR order, including if you cancel them.

You have the right to have this information in a different language, type of print, or form.

If you need this information in a different way or you need any other help, please call:

**Michigan Relay Center
Toll Free: 1-800-649-3777**

Or

Dial 711

*(For hearing-impaired, hard-of-hearing,
or speech-impaired)*

Recipient Rights Advisor
*(at the agency where you
received treatment services)*

Customer Services
Toll Free: 1 (888) 230-7629

Recipient Rights Regional Consultant
Jeanne L. Diver, M.P.A.
(517) 853-0495 x 111

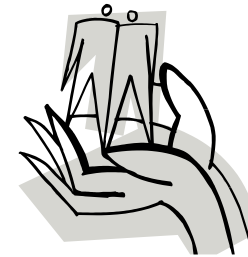
or

Toll Free: 1 (888) 230-7629

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Form Q005

Advance Directive



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