

WAC 388-97-0280 Advance directives. (1) "Advance directive" as used in this chapter means any document indicating a resident's choice with regard to a specific service, treatment, medication or medical procedure option that may be implemented in the future such as power of attorney, health care directive, limited or restricted treatment cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), do not resuscitate (DNR), and organ tissue donation.

(2) The nursing home must carry out the provisions of this section in accordance with the applicable provisions of WAC 388-97-0240 and 388-97-0260, and with state law.

(3) The nursing home must:

(a) Document in the clinical record whether or not the resident has an advance directive;

(b) Not request or require the resident to have any advance directives and not condition the provision of care or otherwise discriminate against a resident on the basis of whether or not the resident has executed an advance directive;

(c) In a language and words the resident understands, inform the resident in writing and orally at the time of admission, and thereafter as necessary to ensure the resident's right to make informed choices, about:

(i) The right to make health care decisions, including the right to change his or her mind regarding previous decisions;

(ii) Nursing home policies and procedures concerning implementation of advance directives; and

(d) Review and update as needed the resident advance directive information:

(i) At the resident's request;

(ii) When the resident's condition warrants review; and

(iii) When there is a significant change in the resident's condition.

(4) When the nursing home becomes aware that a resident's health care directive is in conflict with facility practices and policies which are consistent with state and federal law, the nursing home must:

(a) Inform the resident of the existence of any nursing home practice or policy which would preclude implementing the health care directive;

(b) Provide the resident with written policies and procedures that explain under what circumstances a resident's health care directive will or will not be implemented by the nursing home;

(c) Meet with the resident to discuss the conflict; and

(d) Determine, in light of the conflicting practice or policy, whether the resident chooses to remain at the nursing home:

(i) If the resident chooses to remain in the nursing home, develop with the resident a plan in accordance with chapter 70.122 RCW to implement the resident's wishes. The nursing home may need to actively participate in ensuring the execution of the plan, including moving the resident at the time of implementation to a care setting that will implement the resident's wishes. Attach the plan to the resident's directive in the resident's clinical record; or

(ii) If, after recognizing the conflict between the resident's wishes and nursing home practice or policy the resident chooses to seek other long-term care services, or another physician who will implement the directive, the nursing home must assist the resident in locating other appropriate services.

(5) If a terminally ill resident, in accordance with state law, wishes to die at home, the nursing home must:

(a) Use the informed consent process as described in WAC 388-97-0260, and explain to the resident the risks associated with discharge; and

(b) Discharge the resident as soon as reasonably possible.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.51 and 74.42 RCW. WSR 10-02-021, § 388-97-0280, filed 12/29/09, effective 1/29/10. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.51 and 74.42 RCW and 42 C.F.R. 489.52. WSR 08-20-062, § 388-97-0280, filed 9/24/08, effective 11/1/08.]