

BRAZOS VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
Health Services

Policies and Procedures

Policy Subject/Title: Advanced Directives
Applicability: All Community Health Clinic Patients
Purpose: To inform patients that they have the right to have an Advanced Directive.

Policy: The Community Health Clinics will inform the patients of their right to execute and place on file an Advanced Directive in the form of a Directive to Physicians and Family or Surrogates, a Medical Power of Attorney and/or a Texas Department of Health Standard Out-of-Hospital Do-Not-Resuscitate Order.

Procedure:

1. At the time of the initial and annual registration appointments all patients will be informed of their right and the right of their family members to execute and place in their medical record a copy of an Advanced Directive, as recognized by the State of Texas.
2. The patient who is registering themselves and their family members will sign and date the form "Advanced Directive Notification" to document that they have been informed of their right to complete Advanced Directives.
3. This signed form will be maintained in the medical record.
4. Copies of a Directive to Physicians and Family or Surrogates, a Medical Power of Attorney and a Texas Department of Health Standard Out-of-Hospital Do-Not-Resuscitate Order forms will be available to provide to patients at their request. Spanish versions of the forms will be provided **but** an English version will be the completed document that is on file in the patients' medical record.

ENCLOSURES:

- 1) Directive to Physicians & Family or Surrogates
- 2) Medical Power of Attorney
- 3) Texas Department of Health Standard Out-of-Hospital Do-Not-Resuscitate Order

