

LAMB PLASTIC SURGERY CENTER

Policy/Procedure

Category title: Advance Medical Directives

Effective date: 1-5-2010

Subject: Advance Medical Directives

I. POLICY

Patients will be informed of his/her right to make informed decisions regarding his/her medical care as it 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.
2. If advance medical directives are already in place, patients will be asked to forward LPSC a copy of such documents prior to the date of surgical services, to be filed in the patient chart.
3. If the patient does not have advance medical directives already in place, a pamphlet explaining advance medical directives and how to create them will be provided to the patient at the time of the consult, in the pre-admission packet.
4. Patients who did not receive information in the pre-admission packet at the time of the consult will receive the information in the pre-admission packet by mail prior to the scheduled surgical procedure.

5. The pre-admission packet including the pamphlet on advance medical directives and the LPSC policy on advance medical directives will be discussed during the pre-op phone call prior to the scheduled surgical procedure to answer any questions patients may have.

Administrative Approval: Dr. D. R. Lamb

Accountable Party: Dr. D. R. Lamb and Colleen Weick

Revision/ Review Dates: 1/5/2010, 4/12