



Oregon Surgical Institute Policy on Advance Directives

As a free-standing surgery center, we are required to inform our patients of our Advance Directive policies. We are happy to speak with you over the phone to clarify our policy or answer any questions you may have. Our front office telephone number is: 971-708-0400

Definition:

An advance directive is a set of instructions that explain the specific health care measures a person wants if he or she should have a terminal illness or injury and become incapable of indicating whether to continue curative and life-sustaining treatment, or to remove life support systems. The person must develop the advance directive while he or she is able to clearly and definitively express him or herself verbally, in writing, or in sign language. It must express the person's own free will regarding their health care, not the will of anyone else. It does not affect routine care for cleanliness and comfort, which must be given whether or not there is an advance directive.

Oregon State Law Regarding Advance Directives:

In Oregon, the Health Care Decisions Act ([ORS 127.505 – 127.660](#) and [ORS 127.995](#)) allows an individual to preauthorize health care representatives to allow the natural dying process if he or she is medically confirmed to be in one of the conditions described in his or her health care instructions. This Act does not authorize euthanasia, assisted suicide or any overt action to end the person's life.

Our Policy:

- The existence of an advance directive, or lack thereof, will **not** determine the patient's access to care, treatment and services.
- Official Oregon state advance directive forms will be available to patients, if requested, in advance of the date of the procedure at Oregon Surgical Institute.
- Patients or patient representatives will be informed prior to the day of surgery of the facilities' policy on advance directives and the applicable State health and safety laws. Thus, allowing those involved to make an informed decision about whether to proceed at the surgery center or to seek care at another facility. Patients will always be encouraged to make informed decisions regarding their care.
- If the patient referral to the surgery center is made on the same day of surgery, the patient will be informed of our policies the day of the procedure.
- Documentation will be provided in the patient's medical record and prominently displayed in that record. At a minimum, it will include:
 - That the patient has been informed of the policy and received facility information related to advance directives.
 - Whether or not the patient has accepted the facility policy.
- Oregon Surgical Institute recognizes the importance of an Advance Directive. In the event of a medical emergency, appropriate care will be provided including attempts to stabilize and/or resuscitate the patient. Transfer arrangements will be made to a local hospital and the Oregon Surgical Institute will forward the Advance Directive in the patient's medical record.