

# ADVANCE DIRECTIVES INFORMATION PACKET



Healthcare Representative

Living Will Declaration

Life-Prolonging Procedures Declaration

Out of Hospital "Do Not Resuscitate"

Organ and Tissue Donation

Financial Power of Attorney

Physician Order For Scope of Treatment (POST)



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# Indiana State Department of Health

2 North Meridian Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

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## ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

### YOUR RIGHT TO DECIDE

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The purpose of this brochure is to inform you of ways that you can direct your medical care and treatment in the event that you are unable to communicate for yourself. This brochure covers:

- What is an advance directive?
- Are advance directives required?
- What happens if you do not have an advance directive?
- What are the different types of advance directives?

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF ADVANCE DIRECTIVES**

Each time you visit your physician, you make decisions regarding your personal health care. You tell your doctor (generally referred to as a “physician”) about your medical problems. Your physician makes a diagnosis and informs you about available medical treatment. You then decide what treatment to accept. That process works until you are unable to decide what treatments to accept or become unable to communicate your decisions. Diseases common to aging such as dementia or Alzheimer’s disease may take away your ability to decide and communicate your health care wishes. Even young people can have strokes or accidents that may keep them from making their own health care decisions. Advance directives are a way to manage your future health care when you cannot speak for yourself.

## **WHAT IS AN ADVANCE DIRECTIVE?**

“Advance directive” is a term that refers to your spoken and written instructions about your future medical care and treatment. By stating your health care choices in an advance directive, you help your family and physician understand your wishes about your medical care. Indiana law pays special attention to advance directives.

Advance directives are normally one or more documents that list your health care instructions. An advance directive may name a person of your choice to make health care choices for you when you cannot make the choices for yourself. If you want, you may use an advance directive to prevent certain people from making health care decisions on your behalf.

Your advance directives will not take away your right to decide your current health care. As long as you are able to decide and express your own decisions, your advance directives will not be used. This is true even under the most serious medical conditions. Your advance directive will only be used when you are unable to communicate or when your physician decides that you no longer have the mental competence to make your own choices.

## **ARE ADVANCE DIRECTIVES REQUIRED?**

Advance directives are not required. Your physician or hospital cannot require you to make an advance directive if you do not want one. No one may discriminate against you if you do not sign one. Physicians and hospitals often encourage patients to complete advance directive documents. The purpose of the advance directive is for your physician to gain information about your health care choices so that your wishes can be followed. While completing an advance directive provides guidance to your physician in the event that you are unable to communicate for yourself, you are not required to have an advance directive.

## **WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DO NOT HAVE AN ADVANCE DIRECTIVE?**

If you do not have an advance directive and are unable to choose medical care or treatment, Indiana law decides who can do this for you. Indiana Code § 16-36-1-5 establishes a priority list. If you cannot communicate and do not have an advance directive, your physician will try to contact a representative using the priority list. Your health care choices will be made by the representative that your physician is able to contact. The order of priority is:

1. A judicially appointed guardian of the person or a representative appointed by a probate court.
2. A spouse (unless legally separated or there is a pending petition for separation, dissolution, annulment, protective order or no contact order [Indiana Code § 16-36-1-9.5]).
3. An adult child
4. A parent
5. An adult sibling
6. A grandparent
7. An adult grandchild
8. An adult friend (special conditions apply)
9. The nearest other adult relative in the next degree of kinship not listed in 2 through 7

Note 1: If there are multiple individuals in any priority group and the group cannot achieve consensus, then a majority of the available individuals at the same priority level controls.

Note 2: You may disqualify one or more individuals. The disqualification must be in writing, designates those disqualified and signed by you [Indiana Code § 16-36-1-9].

## **WHAT TYPES OF ADVANCE DIRECTIVES ARE RECOGNIZED IN INDIANA?**

- ☐ Talking directly to your physician and family
- ☐ Organ and tissue donation
- ☐ Health care representative
- ☐ Living Will Declaration or Life-Prolonging Procedures Declaration
- ☐ Psychiatric advance directives
- ☐ Out of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Declaration and Order
- ☐ Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST)
- ☐ Power of Attorney

## **TALKING TO YOUR PHYSICIAN AND FAMILY**

One of the most important things to do is to talk about your health care wishes with your physician. Your physician can follow your wishes only if he or she knows what your wishes are. You do not have to write down your health care wishes in an advance directive. By discussing your wishes with your physician, your physician will record your choices in your medical chart so that there is a record available for future reference. Your physician will follow your verbal instructions even if you do not complete a written advance directive. Solely discussing your wishes with your physician, however, does not cover all situations. Your physician may not be available when choices need to be made. Other health care providers would not have a copy of the medical records maintained by your physician and therefore would not know about any verbal instructions given by you to your physician. In addition, spoken instructions provide no written evidence and carry less weight than written instructions if there is a disagreement over your care. Writing down your health care choices in an advance directive document makes your wishes clear and may be necessary to fulfill legal requirements.

If you have written advance directives, it is important that you give a copy to your physician. He or she

will keep it in your medical chart. If you are admitted to a hospital or health facility, your physician will write orders in your medical chart based on your written advance directives or your spoken instructions. For instance, if you have a fatal disease and do not want cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), your physician will need to write a “do not resuscitate” (DNR) order in your chart. The order makes the hospital staff aware of your wishes. Because most people have several health care providers, you should discuss your wishes with all of your providers and give each provider a copy of your advance directives.

It is difficult to talk with family about dying or being unable to communicate. However, it is important to talk with your family about your wishes and ask them to follow your wishes. You do not always know when or where an illness or accident will occur. It is likely that your family would be the first ones called in an emergency. They are the best source of providing advance directives to a health care provider.

## **ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION**

Increasing the quality of life for another person is the ultimate gift. Donating your organs is a way to help others. Making your wishes concerning organ donation clear to your physician and family is an important first step. This lets them know that you wish to be an organ donor. Organ donation is controlled by the Indiana Uniform Anatomical Gift Act found at Indiana Code § 29-2-16.1. A person that wants to donate organs may include their choice in their will, living will, on a card, or other document. If you do not have a written document for organ donation, someone else will make the choice for you. A common method used to show that you are an organ donor is making the choice on your driver’s license. When you get a new or renewed license, you can ask the license branch to mark your license showing you are an organ donor.

## **HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE**

A “health care representative” is a person you choose to receive health care information and make health care decisions for you when you cannot. To choose a health care representative, you must fill out an appointment of health care representative document that names the person you choose to act for you. Your health care representative may agree to or refuse medical care and treatments when you are unable to do so. Your representative will make these choices based on your advance directive. If you want, in certain cases and in consultation with your physician, your health care representative may decide if food, water, or respiration should be given artificially as part of your medical treatment.

Choosing a health care representative is part of the Indiana Health Care Consent Act, found at Indiana Code § 16 -36 -1. The advance directive naming a health care representative must be in writing, signed by you, and witnessed by another adult. Because these are serious decisions, your health care representative must make them in your best interest. Indiana courts have made it clear that decisions made for you by your health care representative should be honored.

## **LIVING WILL**

A “living will” is a written document that puts into words your wishes in the event that you become terminally ill and unable to communicate. A living will is an advance directive that lists the specific care or treatment you want or do not want during a terminal illness. A living will often includes directions for CPR, artificial nutrition, maintenance on a respirator, and blood transfusions. The Indiana Living Will Act is found at Indiana Code § 16-36-4. This law allows you to write one of two

kinds of advance directive.

**Living Will Declaration:** This document is used to tell your physician and family that life - prolonging treatments should not be used so that you are allowed to die naturally. Your living will does not have to prohibit all life-prolonging treatments. Your living will should list your specific choices. For example, your living will may state that you do not want to be placed on a respirator but that you want a feeding tube for nutrition. You may even specify that someone else should make the decision for you.

**Life-Prolonging Procedures Declaration:** This document is the opposite of a living will. You can use this document if you want all life-prolonging medical treatments used to extend your life.

Both of these documents can be canceled orally, in writing, or by destroying the declaration yourself. The cancellation takes effect only when you tell your physician. For either of these documents to be used, there must be two adult witnesses and the document must be in writing and signed by you or someone that has permission to sign your name in your presence.

### **PSYCHIATRIC ADVANCE DIRECTIVE**

Any person may make a psychiatric advance directive if he/she has legal capacity. This written document expresses your preferences and consent to treatment measures for a specific diagnosis. The directive sets forth the care and treatment of a mental illness during periods of incapacity. This directive requires certain items in order for the directive to be valid. Indiana Code § 16-36-1.7 provides the requirements for this type of advance directive.

### **OUT OF HOSPITAL DO NOT RESUSCITATE DECLARATION AND ORDER**

In a hospital, if you have a terminal condition and you do not want CPR, your physician will write a “do not resuscitate” order in your medical chart. If you are not in a hospital when an emergency occurs, the emergency medical personnel or the hospital where you are sent likely would not have a physician’s order to implement your directives. For situations outside of a hospital, the *Out of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Declaration and Order* is used to state your wishes. The *Out of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Declaration and Order* is found at Indiana Code § 16-36-5.

The law allows a qualified person to say they do not want CPR given if the heart or lungs stop working in a location that is not a hospital. This declaration may override other advance directives. The declaration may be canceled by you at any time by a signed and dated writing, by destroying or canceling the document, or by communicating to health care providers at the scene your desire to cancel the order. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) may have procedures in place for marking your home so they know you have an order. You should contact your local EMS provider to find out their procedures.

### **PHYSICIAN ORDERS FOR SCOPE OF TREATMENT (POST)**

A “Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment” (also referred to as a POST form) is a direct physician order for a person with at least one of the following:

1. An advanced chronic progressive illness.
2. An advanced chronic progressive frailty.
3. A condition caused by injury, disease, or illness from which, to a reasonable degree of

medical certainty there can be no recovery and death will occur from the condition within a short period without the provision of life prolonging procedures.

4. A medical condition that, if the person were to suffer cardiac or pulmonary failure, resuscitation would be unsuccessful or within a short period the person would experience repeated cardiac or pulmonary failure resulting in death.

In consultation with you or your legal representative, your physician will write orders that reflect your wishes with regards to cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), medical interventions (comfort measures, limited additional interventions, or full treatment), antibiotics and artificially administered nutrition. You additionally have the option on the POST form to designate a “Health Care Representative” [see the section “Health Care Representative” above for additional information]. Note that if you have previously designated a health care representative and you name a different person on your POST form, the person designated on the POST form replaces (revokes) the person named in the previous health care representative advance directive. The Indiana POST form is available on the Indiana State Department of Health website at [www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm](http://www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm).

The POST form must be signed and dated by you (or your legal representative) and your physician, physician’s assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse to be valid. The original form is your personal property and you should keep it. Paper, facsimile (fax), or electronic copies of a valid POST form are as valid as the original. Your physician is required to keep a copy of your POST form in your medical record or; if the POST form is executed in a health facility, the facility must maintain a copy of the form in the medical record. The POST form may be used in any health care setting. The Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment statute is found at Indiana Code § 16-36-6.

Executed POST forms may be revoked at any time by any of the following:

1. A signed and dated writing by you or your legal representative.
2. Physical cancellation or destruction of the POST form by you or your legal representative.
3. Another individual at the direction of you or your legal representative.
4. An oral expression by you or your legal representative of intent to revoke the POST form.

The revocation is effective upon communication of the revocation to a health care provider.

## **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

A “power of attorney” (also referred to as a “durable power of attorney”) is another kind of advance directive. This document is used to grant another person say-so over your affairs. Your power of attorney document may cover financial matters, give health care authority, or both. By giving this power to another person, you give this person your power of attorney. The legal term for the person you choose is “attorney in fact.” Your attorney in fact does not have to be an attorney. Your attorney in fact can be any adult you trust. Your attorney in fact is given the power to act for you only in the ways that you list in the document. The document must:

1. Name the person you want as your attorney in fact;
2. List the situations which give the attorney in fact the power to act;
3. List the powers you want to give; and
4. List the powers you do not want to give.

The person you name as your power of attorney is not required to accept the responsibility. Prior to executing a power of attorney document, you should talk with the person to ensure that he or she is willing to serve. A power of attorney document may be used to designate a health care representative.



Health care powers are granted in the power of attorney document by naming your attorney in fact as your health care representative under the Health Care Consent Act or by referring to the Living Will Act. When a power of attorney document is used to name a health care representative, this person is referred to as your health care power of attorney. A health care power of attorney generally serves the same role as a health care representative in a health care representative advance directive. Including health care powers could allow your attorney in fact to:

1. Make choices about your health care;
2. Sign health care contracts for you;
3. Admit or release you from hospitals or other health facilities;
4. Look at or get copies of your medical records; and
5. Do a number of other things in your name.

The Indiana Powers of Attorney Act is found at Indiana Code § 30-5. Your power of attorney document must be in writing and signed in the presence of a notary public. You can cancel a power of attorney at any time but only by signing a written cancellation and having the cancellation delivered to your attorney in fact.

### **WHICH ADVANCE DIRECTIVE OR DIRECTIVES SHOULD BE USED?**

The choice of advance directives depends on what you are trying to do. The advance directives listed above may be used alone or together. Although an attorney is not required, you may want to talk with one before you sign an advance directive. The laws are complex and it is always wise to talk to an attorney about questions and your legal choices. An attorney is often helpful in advising you on complex family matters and making sure that your documents are correctly done under Indiana law. An attorney may be helpful if you live in more than one state during the year. An attorney can advise you whether advance directives completed in another state are recognized in Indiana.

### **CAN I CHANGE MY MIND AFTER I WRITE AN ADVANCE DIRECTIVE?**

It is important to discuss your advance directives with your family and health care providers. Your health care wishes cannot be followed unless someone knows your wishes. You may change or cancel your advance directives at any time as long as you are of sound mind. If you change your mind, you need to tell your family, health care representative, power of attorney, and health care providers. You might have to cancel your decision in writing for it to become effective. Always be sure to talk directly with your physician and tell him or her your exact wishes.

### **ARE THERE FORMS TO HELP IN WRITING THESE DOCUMENTS?**

Advance directive forms are available from many sources. Most physicians, hospitals, health facilities, or senior citizen groups can provide you with forms or refer you to a source. These groups often have the information on their web sites. You should be aware that forms may not do everything you want done. Forms may need to be changed to meet your needs. Although advance directives do not require an attorney, you may wish to consult with one before you try to write one of the more complex legal documents listed above.

Several of the forms are specified by statute. Those forms may be found on the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) Advance Directives Resource Center at [www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm](http://www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm). The following

forms are available on that web site:

- Living Will Declaration
- Life-Prolonging Procedures Declaration
- Out of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Declaration and Order
- Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST)

### **WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH MY ADVANCE DIRECTIVE IF I CHOOSE TO HAVE ONE?**

Make sure that your health care representative, immediate family members, physician, attorney, and other health care providers know that you have an advance directive. Be sure to tell them where it is located. You should ask your physician and other health care providers to make your advance directives part of your permanent medical chart. If you have a power of attorney, you should give a copy of your advance directives to your attorney in fact. You may wish to keep a small card in your purse or wallet that states that you have an advance directive, where it is located, and who to contact for your attorney in fact or health care representative, if you have named one.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For additional information on advance directives, visit the Indiana State Department of Health Advanced Directives Resource Center located at [www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm](http://www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm). The site includes links to state forms, this brochure, links to Indiana statutes, and links to other web sites.

The ISDH Web site contains a wealth of information about public health. Visit the ISDH Home Page at [www.in.gov/isdh](http://www.in.gov/isdh).

## **SUMMARY OF ADVANCE DIRECTIVES**

- ☐ You have the right to choose the medical care and treatment you receive. Advance directives help make sure you have a say in your future health care and treatment if you become unable to communicate.
- ☐ Even if you do not have written advance directives, it is important to make sure your physician and family are aware of your health care wishes.
- ☐ No one can discriminate against you for signing, or not signing, an advance directive. An advance directive is, however, your way to control your future medical treatment.
- ☐ This information was prepared by the Indiana State Department of Health as an overview of advance directives. The Indiana State Department of Health attorneys cannot give you legal advice concerning living wills or advance directives. You should talk with your personal lawyer or representative for advice and assistance in this matter.

Indiana State Department of Health  
2 North Meridian Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
<http://www.in.gov/isdh>

**The following forms are specified  
by the Indiana statute. They are also  
available on the Indiana State  
Department of Health website:  
[www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm](http://www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm)**



## INDIANA HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT

State Form 56184 (11-16)

Indiana State Department of Health – IC 16-36-1; IC 16-36-6

**INSTRUCTIONS:** See instructions on back.

Patient / Appointor Information		
Patient Last Name	Patient First Name	Patient Middle Initial
Patient Birthday (mm/dd/yyyy)	Medical Record Number of Healthcare Facility or Provider (optional)	Healthcare Facility or Provider (optional)
Appointment of Health Care Representative		
<p>I, being at least eighteen (18) years of age, of sound mind, and capable of consenting to my health care, hereby appoint the person(s) named below as my lawful health care representative in all matters affecting my health care, including but not limited to providing consent or refusing to provide consent to medical care, surgery, and/or placement in health care facilities, including extended care facilities, unless otherwise provided in this appointment. This appointment shall become effective at such time and from time to time as my attending physician determines that I am incapable of consenting to my health care. I understand that if I have previously named a health care representative the designation below supersedes (replaces) any prior named Health Care Representative(s).</p> <p>I authorize my health care representative to make decisions in my best interest concerning withdrawal or withholding of health care. If at any time based on my previously expressed preferences and the diagnosis and prognosis my health care representative is satisfied that certain health care is not or would not be beneficial or that such health care is or would be excessively burdensome, then my health care representative may express my will that such health care be withheld or withdrawn and may consent on my behalf that any or all health care be discontinued or not instituted, even if death may result. My health care representative must try to discuss this decision with me. However, if I am unable to communicate, my health care representative may make such a decision for me, after consultation with my physician or physicians and other relevant health care givers. To the extent appropriate, my health care representative may also discuss this decision with my family and others to the extent they are available.</p> <p>I specify the following terms and conditions (if any):</p>		
Name of Representative Appointed	Address of Representative (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code)	Telephone Number of Representative
Signature of Patient / Appointor or Designee (must be signed in the appointor's presence)	Printed Name of Patient / Appointor or Designee	Date of Appointment (mm/dd/yyyy)
Signature of Witness	Printed Name of Witness	Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR STATE FORM 56184, INDIANA HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT

1. There are numerous types of advance directives. The Indiana State Department of Health encourages individuals to consult with their attorney, health planner, and health care providers in completing any advance directive.
2. This state form is not required for an appointment of a health care representative. An individual may use a form designed by their attorney or other entity to specifically meet the individual's needs. To be valid, any form must comply with statutory requirements.
3. An individual is not required to complete a health care representative appointment form. An individual may always choose to not appoint a health care representative. If there is no appointed representative, state medical consent laws would determine who may consent to your healthcare.
4. The medical record number and health care facility or provider is not required for the appointment to be effective. It may be included as a means of assisting the health care provider in identifying the correct patient and locating the appointment in the correct medical record.
5. The patient / appointor may specify in the appointment appropriate terms and conditions, including an authorization to the representative to delegate the authority to consent to another.
6. The authority granted becomes effective according to the terms of the appointment.
7. The appointment does not commence until the appointor becomes incapable of consenting. The authority granted in the appointment is not effective if the patient / appointor regains the capacity to consent.
8. Unless the appointment provides otherwise, a representative appointed under this section who is reasonably available and willing to act has priority to act in all matters of health care for the patient / appointor, except when the patient / appointor is capable of consenting.
9. The appointment of a health care representative must be witnessed by an adult other than the health care representative.
10. In making all decisions regarding the patient's / appointor's health care, the health care representative shall act:
  - a. In the best interest of the patient / appointor consistent with the purpose expressed in the appointment.
  - b. In good faith.
11. A health care representative who resigns or is unwilling to comply with the written appointment may not exercise further power under the appointment and shall so inform the following:
  - a. The patient / appointor.
  - b. The patient's / appointor's legal representative if one is known.
  - c. The health care provider if the representative knows there is one.
12. An individual who is capable of consenting to health care may revoke:
  - a. The appointment at any time by notifying the representative orally or in writing; or
  - b. The authority granted to the representative by notifying the health care provider orally or in writing.



## INDIANA LIVING WILL DECLARATION

State Form 55316 (6-13)

Indiana State Department of Health – IC 16-36-4

This declaration is effective on the date of execution and remains in effect until revocation or the death of the declarant. This declaration should be provided to your physician.

### LIVING WILL DECLARATION

Declaration made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ (month, year). I, \_\_\_\_\_, being at least eighteen (18) years of age and of sound mind, willfully and voluntarily make known my desires that my dying shall not be artificially prolonged under the circumstances set forth below, and I declare:

If at any time my attending physician certifies in writing that:

- (1) I have an incurable injury, disease, or illness;
- (2) my death will occur within a short time; and
- (3) the use of life prolonging procedures would serve only to artificially prolong the dying process,

I direct that such procedures be withheld or withdrawn and that I be permitted to die naturally with only the performance or provision of any medical procedure or medication necessary to provide me with comfort care or to alleviate pain, and, if I have so indicated below, the provision of artificially supplied nutrition and hydration. (Indicate your choice by initialing or making your mark before signing this declaration.):

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to receive artificially supplied nutrition and hydration, even if the effort to sustain life is futile or excessively burdensome to me.

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not wish to receive artificially supplied nutrition and hydration, if the effort to sustain life is futile or excessively burdensome to me.

\_\_\_\_\_ I intentionally make no decision concerning artificially supplied nutrition and hydration, leaving the decision to my health care representative appointed under IC 16-36-1-7 or my attorney in fact with health care powers under IC 30-5-5.

In the absence of my ability to give directions regarding the use of life prolonging procedures, it is my intention that this declaration be honored by my family and physician as the final expression of my legal right to refuse medical or surgical treatment and accept the consequences of the refusal.

I understand the full import of this declaration.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, County, and State of Residence

### WITNESSES

The declarant has been personally known to me and I believe (him/her) to be of sound mind. I did not sign the declarant's signature above for or at the direction of the declarant. I am not a parent, spouse, or child of the declarant. I am not entitled to any part of the declarant's estate or directly financially responsible for the declarant's medical care. I am competent and at least eighteen (18) years of age.

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Date (month, day, year) \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Date (month, day, year) \_\_\_\_\_







## INDIANA LIFE PROLONGING PROCEDURES DECLARATION

State Form 55315 (6-13)

Indiana State Department of Health – IC 16-36-4

This declaration is effective on the date of execution and remains in effect until revocation or the death of the declarant. This declaration should be provided to your physician.

### LIFE PROLONGING PROCEDURES DECLARATION

Declaration made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ (*month, year*). I, \_\_\_\_\_, being at least eighteen (18) years of age and of sound mind, willfully and voluntarily make known my desire that if at any time I have an incurable injury, disease, or illness determined to be a terminal condition I request the use of life prolonging procedures that would extend my life. This includes appropriate nutrition and hydration, the administration of medication, and the performance of all other medical procedures necessary to extend my life, to provide comfort care, or to alleviate pain.

In the absence of my ability to give directions regarding the use of life prolonging procedures, it is my intention that this declaration be honored by my family and physician as the final expression of my legal right to request medical or surgical treatment and accept the consequences of the request.

I understand the full import of this declaration.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City, County, and State of Residence*

### WITNESSES

The declarant has been personally known to me and I believe (him/her) to be of sound mind. I am competent and at least eighteen (18) years of age.

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Date (*month, day, year*) \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Date (*month, day, year*) \_\_\_\_\_





**STATE OF INDIANA  
OUT OF HOSPITAL DO NOT RESUSCITATE DECLARATION AND ORDER**

State Form 49559 (R / 9-11)



**This declaration and order is effective on the date of execution and remains in effect until the death of the declarant or revocation.**

**OUT OF HOSPITAL DO NOT RESUSCITATE DECLARATION**

Declaration made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, being of sound mind and at least eighteen (18) years of age, willfully and voluntarily make known my desires that my dying shall not be artificially prolonged under the circumstances set forth below.

**I declare:**

My attending physician has certified that I am a qualified person, meaning that I have a terminal condition or a medical condition such that, if I suffer cardiac or pulmonary failure, resuscitation would be unsuccessful or within a short period I would experience repeated cardiac or pulmonary failure resulting in death.

I direct that, if I experience cardiac or pulmonary failure in a location other than an acute care hospital, cardiopulmonary resuscitation procedures be withheld or withdrawn and that I be permitted to die naturally. My medical care may include any medical procedure necessary to provide me with comfort care or to alleviate pain.

I understand that I may revoke this Out of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Declaration at any time by a signed and dated writing, by destroying or canceling this document, or by communicating to health care providers at the scene the desire to revoke this declaration.

**I understand the full import of this declaration**

Signature of declarant

Printed name of declarant

City and state of residence

The declarant is personally known to me, and I believe the declarant to be of sound mind. I did not sign the declarant's signature above, for, or at the direction of, the declarant. I am not a parent, spouse, or child of the declarant. I am not entitled to any part of the declarant's estate or directly financially responsible for the declarant's medical care. I am competent and at least eighteen (18) years of age.

Signature of witness

Printed name

Date (month, day, year)

Signature of witness

Printed name

Date (month, day, year)

**OUT OF HOSPITAL DO NOT RESUSCITATE ORDER**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the attending physician of \_\_\_\_\_, have certified the declarant as a qualified person to make an Out Of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Declaration, and I order health care providers having actual notice of this Out Of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Declaration and Order not to initiate or continue cardiopulmonary resuscitation procedures on behalf of the declarant, unless the Out Of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Declaration is revoked.

Signature of attending physician

Printed name of attending physician

Medical license number

Date (month, day, year)



## INDIANA DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY

NOTICE: IC 30.5 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE POWERS, OBTAIN COMPETENT LEGAL ADVICE. **THIS DOCUMENT IS A FINANCIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY. IT DOES NOT AUTHORIZE ANYONE TO MAKE HEALTH-CARE DECISIONS FOR YOU.** YOU MAY REVOKE THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY AT ANYTIME. THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE EFFECTIVE EVEN IF YOU BECOME DISABLED, INCAPACITATED, OR INCOMPETENT.

Insert the name(s) and address(es) of the person appointed as my Agent (attorney-in-fact) to act for me in any lawful way with respect to the following initialed subjects:

Printed Name of Appointed Financial Power of Attorney (Agent)	Printed Name of Appointed Financial Power of Attorney (Agent)
Address	Address
Telephone Number (       )	Telephone Number

Each agent may act independent of the other: Yes ☐ No ☐

**TO GRANT THE FOLLOWING POWERS, INITIAL THE LINE IN FRONT OF EACH POWER YOU ARE GRANTING.**

**INITIAL EACH POWER YOU ARE GRANTING:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **(A) REAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.** To lease, sell, mortgage, purchase, exchange, acquire, and to agree, bargain, and contract for the lease, sale, purchase, exchange, and acquisition of, and to accept, take, receive, and possess any interest in real property whatsoever, on such terms and conditions, and under such covenants, as my Agent shall deem proper; and to maintain, repair, tear down, alter, rebuild, improve manage, insure, move, rent, lease, sell, convey, subject to liens, mortgages, and security deeds, and in any way or manner deal with all or any part of any interest in real property whatsoever, including specifically, but without limitation, real property lying and being situated in the State of Indiana, under such terms and conditions, and under such covenants, as my Agent shall deem proper and may for all deferred payments accept purchase money notes payable to me and secured by mortgages or deeds to secure debt, and may from time to time collect and cancel any of said notes, mortgages, security interests, or deeds to secure debt.

\_\_\_\_\_ **(B) TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.** To lease, sell, mortgage, purchase, exchange, acquire, and to agree, bargain, and contract for the lease, sale, purchase, exchange, and acquisition of, and to accept, take, receive, and possess any personal property whatsoever, tangible or intangible, or interest thereto, on such terms and conditions, and under such covenants, as my Agent shall deem proper; and to maintain, repair, improve, manage, insure, rent, lease, sell, convey, subject to liens or mortgages, or to take any other security interests in said property which are recognized under the Uniform Commercial Code as adopted at that time under the laws of the State of Indiana or any applicable state, or otherwise hypothecate (pledge), and in any way or manner deal with all or any part of any real or personal property whatsoever, tangible or intangible, or any interest therein, that I own at the time of execution or may thereafter acquire, under such terms and conditions, and under such covenants, as my Agent shall deem proper.

\_\_\_\_\_ **(C) Stock and bond transactions.** To purchase, sell, exchange, surrender, assign, redeem, vote at any meeting, or otherwise transfer any and all shares of stock, bonds, or other securities in any business, association, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity, whether private or public, now or hereafter belonging to me.

\_\_\_\_\_ **(D) Commodity and option transactions.** To organize or continue and conduct any business which term includes, without limitation, any farming, manufacturing, service, mining, retailing or other type of business operation in any form, whether as a proprietorship, joint venture, partnership, corporation, trust or other legal entity; operate, buy, sell, expand, contract, terminate or liquidate any business; direct, control, supervise, manage or participate in the operation of any business and engage, compensate and discharge business managers, employees, agents, attorneys, accountants and consultants; and, in general, exercise all powers with respect to business interests and operations which the principal could if present and under no disability.

\_\_\_\_\_ **(E) Banking and other financial institution transactions.** To make, receive, sign, endorse, execute, acknowledge, deliver and possess checks, drafts, bills of exchange, letters of credit, notes, stock certificates, withdrawal receipts and deposit instruments relating to accounts or deposits in, or certificates of deposit of banks, savings and loans, credit unions, or other institutions or associations. To pay all sums of money, at any time or times, that may hereafter be owing by me upon any account, bill of exchange, check, draft, purchase, contract, note, or trade acceptance made, executed, endorsed, accepted, and delivered by me or for me in my name, by my Agent. To borrow from time to time such sums of money as my Agent may deem proper and execute promissory notes, security deeds or agreements, financing statements, or other security instruments in such form as the lender may request and renew said notes and security instruments from time to time in whole or in part. To have free access at any time or times to any safe deposit box or vault to which I might have access.

\_\_\_\_\_ **(F) Business operating transactions.** To conduct, engage in, and otherwise transact the affairs of any and all lawful business ventures of whatever nature or kind that I may now or hereafter be involved in.

\_\_\_\_\_ **(G) Insurance and annuity transactions.** To exercise or perform any act, power, duty, right, or obligation, in regard to any contract of life, accident, health, disability, liability, or other type of insurance or any combination of insurance; and to procure new or additional contracts of insurance for me and to designate the beneficiary of same; provided, however, that my Agent cannot designate himself or herself as beneficiary of any such insurance contracts.

\_\_\_\_\_ **(H) Estate, trust, and other beneficiary transactions.** To accept, receipt for, exercise, release, reject, renounce, assign, disclaim, demand, sue for, claim and recover any legacy, bequest, devise, gift or other property interest or payment due or payable to or for the principal; assert any interest in and exercise any power over any trust, estate or property subject to fiduciary control; establish a revocable trust solely for the benefit of the principal that terminates at the death of the principal and is then distributable to the legal representative of the estate of the principal; and, in general, exercise all powers with respect to estates and trusts which the principal could exercise if present and under no disability; provided, however, that the Agent may not make or change a will and may not revoke or amend a trust revocable or amendable by the principal or require the trustee of any trust for the benefit of the principal to pay income or principal to the Agent unless specific authority to that end is given.

\_\_\_\_\_ **(I) Claims and litigation.** To commence, prosecute, discontinue, or defend all actions or other legal proceedings touching my property, real or personal, or any part thereof, or touching any matter in which I or my property, real or personal, may be in any way concerned. To defend, settle, adjust, make allowances, compound, submit to arbitration, and compromise all accounts, reckonings, claims, and demands whatsoever that now are, or hereafter shall be, pending between me and any person, firm, corporation, or other legal entity, in such manner and in all respects as my Agent shall deem proper.

\_\_\_\_\_ **(J) Personal and family maintenance.** To hire accountants, attorneys at law, consultants, clerks, physicians, nurses, agents, servants, workmen, and others and to remove them, and to appoint others in their place, and to pay and allow the persons so employed such salaries, wages, or other remunerations, as my Agent shall deem proper.

\_\_\_\_\_ **(K) Benefits from Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, or other governmental programs, or military service.** To prepare, sign and file any claim or application for Social Security, unemployment or military service benefits; sue for, settle or abandon any claims to any benefit or assistance under any federal, state, local or foreign statute or regulation; control, deposit to any account, collect, receipt for, and take title to and hold all benefits under

any Social Security, unemployment, military service or other state, federal, local or foreign statute or regulation; and, in general, exercise all powers with respect to Social Security, unemployment, military service, and governmental benefits, including but not limited to Medicare and Medicaid, which the principal could exercise if present and under no disability.

\_\_\_\_\_**(L) Retirement plan transactions.** To contribute to, withdraw from and deposit funds in any type of retirement plan (which term includes, without limitation, any tax qualified or nonqualified pension, profit sharing, stock bonus, employee savings and other retirement plan, individual retirement account, deferred compensation plan and any other type of employee benefit plan); select and change payment options for the principal under any retirement plan; make rollover contributions from any retirement plan to other retirement plans or individual retirement accounts; exercise all investment powers available under any type of self-directed retirement plan; and, in general, exercise all powers with respect to retirement plans and retirement plan account balances which the principal could if present and under no disability.

\_\_\_\_\_**(M) Tax matters.** To prepare, to make elections, to execute and to file all tax, social security, unemployment insurance, and informational returns required by the laws of the United States, or of any state or subdivision thereof, or of any foreign government; to prepare, to execute, and to file all other papers and instruments which the Agent shall think to be desirable or necessary for safeguarding of me against excess or illegal taxation or against penalties imposed for claimed violation of any law or other governmental regulation; and to pay, to compromise, or to contest or to apply for refunds in connection with any taxes or assessments for which I am or may be liable.

**(YOUR AGENT WILL HAVE AUTHORITY TO EMPLOY OTHER PERSONS AS NECESSARY TO ENABLE THE AGENT TO PROPERLY EXERCISE THE POWERS GRANTED IN THIS FORM, BUT YOUR AGENT WILL HAVE TO MAKE ALL DISCRETIONARY DECISIONS. IF YOU WANT TO GIVE YOUR AGENT THE RIGHT TO DELEGATE DISCRETIONARY DECISION-MAKING POWERS TO OTHERS, YOU SHOULD KEEP THE NEXT SENTENCE, OTHERWISE IT SHOULD BE STRICKEN.)**

**Authority to Delegate.** My Agent shall have the right by written instrument to delegate any or all of the foregoing powers involving discretionary decision-making to any person or persons whom my Agent may select, but such delegation may be amended or revoked by any agent (including any successor) named by me who is acting under this power of attorney at the time of reference.

**(IF YOU WISH TO NAME SUCCESSOR AGENTS, INSERT THE NAME(S), ADDRESS(ES) AND TELEPHONE NUMBER(S) OF SUCH SUCCESSOR(S) IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH.)**

**Successor Agent.** If any Agent named by me shall die, become incompetent, resign or refuse to accept the office of Agent, I name the following (each to act alone and successively, in the order named) as successor(s) to such Agent:

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
<i>Name</i>	<i>DOB</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>DOB</i>	<i>Phone</i>

Optional: Signature of Successor Agent(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

ON THE FOLLOWING LINES YOU MAY GIVE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS LIMITING OR EXTENDING THE POWERS GRANTED TO YOUR AGENT.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**(YOUR AGENT IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR ALL REASONABLE EXPENSES INCURRED WHILE ACTING UNDER THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY.**

**(STRIKE OUT THE NEXT SENTENCE IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR AGENT TO ALSO BE ENTITLED TO REASONABLE COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES AS YOUR AGENT.)**

**Right to Compensation.** My Agent shall be entitled to reasonable compensation for services rendered as agent under this power of attorney.

**Choice of Law.** THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY WILL BE GOVERNED BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF INDIANA WITHOUT REGARD FOR CONFLICTS OF LAWS PRINCIPLES. IT WAS EXECUTED IN THE STATE OF INDIANA AND IS INTENDED TO BE VALID IN ALL JURISDICTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ALL FOREIGN NATIONS.

**LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY:** My attorney-in-fact shall only be liable for actions undertaken in bad faith; provided, however, my attorney-in-fact shall be liable for the negligent exercise of the powers described herein if the exercise of such power involves self-dealing. I hereby ratify and confirm all that my attorney-in-fact shall do by virtue hereof. Further, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless any person who, in good faith, acts under this Power of Attorney or transacts business with my attorney-in-fact in reliance upon this Power, without actual knowledge of its revocation.

**THIS FINANCIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL IT IS REVOKED.**

**THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS A GENERAL DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY AND SHALL CONTINUE TO BE EFFECTIVE EVEN IF I BECOME DISABLED, INCAPACITATED, OR INCOMPETENT.**

### APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR

I designate \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_[agent(s) name(s)], as my guardian(s) or conservator(s) should a guardianship or conservatorship be established for my person or property.

I am fully informed as to all the contents of this form and understand the full import of this grant of powers to my Agent.

I agree that any third party who receives a copy of this document may act under it. Revocation of the power of attorney is not effective as to a third party until the third party learns of the revocation. I agree to indemnify the third party for any claims that arise against the third party because of reliance on this power of attorney.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Principal

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AGENT

#### Acceptance Signature (optional)

BY ACCEPTING OR ACTING UNDER THE APPOINTMENT, THE AGENT ASSUMES THE FIDUCIARY AND OTHER LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN AGENT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agent Signature [Financial Power of Attorney / Date]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agent Signature [Financial Power of Attorney / Date]

### CERTIFICATE OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NOTARY PUBLIC

STATE OF INDIANA: COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

This document was acknowledged before me on \_\_\_\_\_ [Date] by

\_\_\_\_\_ [name of principal].

[Notary Seal, if any]:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Notarial Officer)  
Notary Public for the State of Indiana  
My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_





## INDIANA PHYSICIAN ORDERS FOR SCOPE OF TREATMENT (POST)

State Form 55317 (R3 / 5-18)

Indiana State Department of Health – IC 16-36-6

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This form is a physician's order for scope of treatment based on the patient's current medical condition and preferences. The POST should be reviewed whenever the patient's condition changes. A POST form is voluntary. A patient is not required to complete a POST form. A patient with capacity or their legal representative may void a POST form at any time by communicating that intent to the health care provider. Any section not completed does not invalidate the form and implies full treatment for that section. HIPAA permits disclosure to health care professionals as necessary for treatment. The original form is personal property of the patient. A facsimile, paper, or electronic copy of this form is a valid form.

Patient Last Name		Patient First Name		Middle Initial
Birth Date (mm/dd/yyyy)		Medical Record Number	Date Prepared (mm/dd/yyyy)	
<b>DESIGNATION OF PATIENT'S PREFERENCES:</b> The following sections (A through D) are the patient's current preferences for scope of treatment.				
<b>A</b> Check One	<b>CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR):</b> Patient has no pulse AND is not breathing. <input type="checkbox"/> Attempt Resuscitation / CPR <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Attempt Resuscitation / DNR When not in cardiopulmonary arrest, follow orders in <b>B</b> , <b>C</b> and <b>D</b> .			
<b>B</b> Check One	<b>MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS:</b> If patient has pulse AND is breathing OR has pulse and is NOT breathing. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Comfort Measures (Allow Natural Death):</b> Treatment Goal: Maximize comfort through symptom management. Relieve pain and suffering through the use of any medication by any route, positioning, wound care and other measures. Use oxygen, suction and manual treatment of airway obstruction as needed for comfort. Patient prefers no transfer to hospital for life-sustaining treatments. Transfer to hospital only if comfort needs cannot be met in current location. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Limited Additional Interventions:</b> Treatment Goal: Stabilization of medical condition. In addition to care described in Comfort Measures above, use medical treatment for stabilization, IV fluids (hydration) and cardiac monitor as indicated to stabilize medical condition. May use basic airway management techniques and non-invasive positive-airway pressure. Do not intubate. Transfer to hospital if indicated to manage medical needs or comfort. Avoid intensive care if possible. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Full Intervention:</b> Treatment Goal: Full interventions including life support measures in the intensive care unit. In addition to care described in Comfort Measures and Limited Additional Interventions above, use intubation, advanced airway interventions, and mechanical ventilation as indicated. Transfer to hospital and/or intensive care unit if indicated to meet medical needs.			
<b>C</b> Check One	<b>ANTIBIOTICS:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Use antibiotics for infection only if comfort cannot be achieved fully through other means. <input type="checkbox"/> Use antibiotics consistent with treatment goals.			
<b>D</b> Check One	<b>ARTIFICIALLY ADMINISTERED NUTRITION:</b> Always offer food and fluid by mouth if feasible. <input type="checkbox"/> No artificial nutrition. <input type="checkbox"/> Defined trial period of artificial nutrition by tube. (Length of trial: _____ Goal: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term artificial nutrition.			
<b>OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL ORDERS:</b>				
<b>SIGNATURE PAGE:</b> This form consists of two (2) pages. Both pages must be present. The following page includes signatures required for the POST form to be effective.				

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_

	<b>SIGNATURE OF PATIENT OR LEGALLY APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE:</b> In order for the POST form to be effective, the patient or legally appointed representative must sign and date the form below.		
<b>E</b>	<b>SIGNATURE OF PATIENT OR LEGALLY APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE</b> My signature below indicates that my physician or physician's designee discussed with me the above orders and the selected orders correctly represent my wishes.		
	Signature <i>(required by statute)</i>	Print Name <i>(required by statute)</i>	Date <i>(required by statute)</i> (mm/dd/yyyy)
<b>F</b>	<b>CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LEGALLY APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE IN SECTION E (IF APPLICABLE):</b> If the signature above is other than patient's, add contact information for the representative.		
	Relationship of representative identified in Section E if patient does not have capacity <i>(required by statute)</i>	Address <i>(number and street, city, state, and ZIP code)</i>	Telephone Number
	<b>PHYSICIAN ORDER:</b> A POST form may be executed only by an individual's treating physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant, and only if: (1) the treating physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant has determined that: (A) the individual is a qualified person; and (B) the medical orders contained in the individual's POST form are reasonable and medically appropriate for the individual; and (2) the qualified person or representative has signed and dated the POST form A qualified person is an individual who has at least one (1) of the following: (1) An advanced chronic progressive illness. (2) An advanced chronic progressive frailty. (3) A condition caused by injury, disease, or illness from which, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty: (A) there can be no recovery; and (B) death will occur from the condition within a short period without the provision of life prolonging procures. (4) A medical condition that, if the person were to suffer cardiac or pulmonary failure, resuscitation would be unsuccessful or within a short period the person would experience repeated cardiac or pulmonary failure resulting in death.		
<b>G</b>	<b>DOCUMENTATION OF DISCUSSION: Orders discussed with (check one):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Patient (patient has capacity) <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Representative <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Guardian <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of Minor <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Power of Attorney		
<b>H</b>	<b>SIGNATURE OF TREATING PHYSICIAN / ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE / PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT</b> My signature below indicates that I or my designee have discussed with the patient or patient's representative the patient's goals and treatment options available to the patient based on the patient's health. My signature below indicates to the best of my knowledge that these orders are consistent with the patient's current medical condition and preferences.		
	Signature of Treating Physician / APRN / PA <i>(required by statute)</i>	Print Treating Physician / APRN / PA Name <i>(required by statute)</i>	Date <i>(required by statute)</i> (mm/dd/yyyy)
	Physician / APRN / PA office telephone number <i>(required by statute)</i>	Physician / APRN / PA License Number <i>(required by statute)</i>	Health Care Professional preparing form if other than the physician / APRN / PA
<b>I</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATIVE:</b> As patient you have the option to appoint an individual to serve as your health care representative pursuant to IC 16-36-1-7. You are not required to designate a health care representative for this POST form to be effective. You are encouraged to consult with your attorney or other qualified individual about advance directives that are available to you. Forms and additional information about advance directives may be found on the ISDH web site at <a href="http://www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm">http://www.in.gov/isdh/25880.htm</a> .		



## **Indiana Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST)**

Information for Patients about POST

November 2016

The Indiana Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST) form is a physician's order determined by the patient's goals and the treatment options available to a patient based on the individual's current health. The POST is intended to record a patient's wishes for medical treatment. The following is intended to provide you with general information about the POST form:

### The POST form:

- The POST form is always voluntary. A health care provider or facility cannot require you to complete a POST form.
- The original POST form is the personal property of the patient. You are encouraged to keep the original POST form; however, photocopies, electronic copies, and faxes are also legal and valid. Your treating physician should retain a copy in your medical record.
- The State periodically updates the POST form. Previous completed versions of the form are still valid.
- HIPAA permits disclosure of the POST to health care professionals as necessary for treatment.
- The POST form may be printed on white paper. There is no requirement that a POST form be printed on a particular color of paper.

### Completing the POST:

- A family member of an adult patient is not authorized to complete and sign a POST unless the family member has been appointed in writing as the legal representative for the patient.

### Provisions of the Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST):

- The POST should reflect your current treatment preferences.
- Any section of the form not completed implies authorization for full treatment for provisions described in that section.
- The POST is a medical order and requires the signature of the treating physician to be legally valid.

### Changing Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST):

- Once initial medical treatment is begun and the risks and benefits of further treatment are clear, your treatment wishes may change. You may change the POST at any time to reflect your current treatment wishes.

Reviewing Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST): Your POST form should be reviewed in the following circumstances:

- There is a substantial change in your health status.
- You are transferred from one care setting or care level to another.
- Your treating physician changes.
- Your treatment preferences change.

### Revoking Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST):

- A person with capacity, or the valid representative of a person without capacity, can revoke the POST at any time by any of the following: a signed and dated writing; physical cancellation or destruction; by another individual at the direction of the declarant or representative; or an oral expression of an intent to revoke. The revocation is effective upon communication to a health care provider.

### Advance Directives:

- No form can address all the medical treatment decisions that may need to be made. There are numerous types of advance directives. You are encouraged to discuss advance directives with your attorney, physician, or other qualified individual. Your physician can provide you with information about POST and whether it is appropriate for you.
- An advance directive, including appointing someone to speak on your behalf if you cannot speak for yourself, is recommended. The ISDH has an Advance Directive Resource Center at [www.in.gov/isdh/25880](http://www.in.gov/isdh/25880) that provides a brochure, forms, and information about advance directives.



# Decatur County Memorial Hospital

The Quality Care You Want. Close By.

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[www.dcmh.net](http://www.dcmh.net)

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