You can have a say in your care

Getting the health care you need often involves decisions. You can and should speak up about the kind of care that works for you and ask doctors to understand what matters to you. Asking for what you want from your care also means telling those closest to you what you’d want if you couldn’t make decisions for yourself.

Open conversations about what matters with those closest to you will give them confidence if they need to make decisions on your behalf.

SCAN THIS QR CODE to begin your Advance Care Planning. We are here to help. Call: 616.774.7615 or email us at: advancecareplanning@spectrumhealth.org

Visit: www.spectrumhealth.org/AdvanceCarePlanning
Testimonials:

“It is comforting knowing that I have my wishes documented if something happens to me where I am unable to convey what medical treatment I would want. The decision to have these directives in place lifts the burden.” – Onilee, patient

“After going through the Advance Care Planning process with my dad at Spectrum Health, we understood his needs and desires for care. When the time came, we were able to honor his decisions. We had confidence knowing the care he wanted was being given.” – Deb, family member of a patient

DEFINITIONS

Advance Care Planning:

1. The appointment of a patient advocate, also known as the Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care (DPOAH)
2. Living Will, also known as treatment preferences
3. Combination of a DPOAH and Living Will

Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare (DPOAH): Legal document that allows an individual to declare who may speak for them when they cannot speak for themselves. The DPOAH document must meet specific requirements in order to be used to activate a DPOAH or designated patient advocate.

Living Will: Document that states wishes surrounding future health care treatments. It is not a legal document in the state of Michigan, but can be useful for the patient advocate and the provider as a guide when making treatment decisions with or on behalf of the patient.