

# Advanced Directive

All patients have the right to participate in their own health care decisions and to make advance directives or to execute powers of attorney that authorize others to make decisions based on their behalf and based on the patient's expressed wishes when the patient is unable to make decisions or able to communicate decisions. South Hills Surgery Center, LLC, respects and upholds those rights.

However, unlike in an acute care hospital setting, the surgery center does not routinely perform "high risk" procedures. Most procedures performed in this facility are considered to be of minimal risk. Of course, no surgery is without risk. You will discuss the specifics of your procedure with your physician who can answer your questions as to its risks and, your expected recovery and care after your surgery.

Therefore, it is our policy, regardless of the contents of any advance directive or instructions from a health care surrogate attorney in fact, that if an adverse event occurs during your treatment at this facility, we will initiate resuscitating or other stabilizing measures and transfer you to an acute care hospital for further evaluation. At the acute care hospital, further treatment or withdrawal of treatment measures already begun will be ordered in accordance with your wishes, advance directive or health care power of attorney. Your agreement with this policy does not revoke or invalidate any current health care directive or health care power of attorney.

Hard copies of the official State forms are available at our facility.

You may request a copy of these official State forms by writing or phone:

Pennsylvania Department of Aging  
Office of Chief Counsel  
555 Walnut Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
(717) 783-1609

For your convenience, we have provided you with a printable version of these official State forms. If you have a copy of an Advanced Directive, we would be more than happy to include this as a permanent part of your medical record.