PURPOSE  To provide for patients who may wish to execute an Advance Directive for further medical care in the event they are unable to speak for themselves.

POLICY  Patients wanting to make an Advance Directive will be provided with the appropriate information based on Kansas state statute.

PROCEDURES

1. If a patient wants information about or assistance with advance directives:
   1.1 The patient shall be offered an “Advanced Directive” packet that contains the following documents: Advance Directives brochure - Introduction To Your Kansas Advance Directive, a copy of the Durable Power Of Attorney For Health Care Decisions, a copy of the Kansas Declaration, and a copy of the Do Not Resuscitate Request form.
   1.2 Registration & Records staff will assist any patient who requests help in understanding or completing an advance directive, including setting an appointment with a medical provider if necessary.
   1.3 Any patient who requests or completes a Pre-Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Request form must be given an appointment with a Watkins physician to discuss the document before it is placed in the patient’s chart.
   1.4 Advance directives filed with Watkins Health Services shall become part of the patient’s medical record and placed into the patient’s chart, under a tab entitled “Advance Directives.”
   1.5 If the medical record is copied for other than treatment, payment, or health care operations distribution, the advanced directives shall be included in the documents provided only if the appropriate box is checked on the form authorizing disclosure. If the medical record is disclosed to another health care entity for treatment purposes, then the advanced directives shall be transferred to the other health care entity.

2. If a patient wants to revoke an advance directive, the documentation will be removed from the medical record and returned to the patient.

REFERENCES:

This document is on file with the KU Policy Library.

K.S.A. 65-28, 103; 65-41, ET. sec.