



## **Advance Directives Policy**

We are required by regulation to notify our patients that we will not honor Advance Directives.

- In an ambulatory care setting where we expect to provide less invasive care to patients who are not acutely ill, admission to the surgery center indicates the patient will tolerate the procedure in this setting without difficulty. If a patient should suffer cardiac or respiratory arrest or any life threatening condition, the patient will be transferred to a more acute level of care, that is, the hospital emergency room.
- If you are scheduled to receive a procedure at Ramapo Valley Surgical Center and present our staff with an Advance Directives/Living Will, we will advise you that the surgical center will not honor any Advance Directives/Living Wills that does not allow resuscitation. It is the policy of Ramapo Valley Surgical Center to transfer any patient requiring resuscitation to the hospital. The hospital can determine when to implement the Advance Directives/Living Will once you notify them of your Advance Directives/Living Will.
- Patients who disagree with this policy must address the issue with their attending physician prior to signing the form acknowledging an understanding of the policy regarding Advance Directives/ Living Wills.
- We are required to inform our patients of this policy prior to their date of admission so they will have opportunity to discuss any concerns with their attending physician and/or make arrangements for a change in admission. Patients will also receive information about where they can learn information about a Living Will if they wish to consider preparing or revising one. The surgical center will provide information about a Living Will to patients requesting this information. Information may include a state provided resource directory for a Living Will, such as a state agency, library or state Web site.
- Patients are not required to have a Living Will or Advance Directives. The surgical center is required to inform the patient of the right to have a Living Will, the right to have the Living Will placed in the patient's medical record, the policy of the surgical center to resuscitate and transfer when indicated, and the right to discuss these policies with the provider of services.