

X. ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

An advance directive is a form that tells healthcare providers what type of healthcare service, including mental healthcare, you do or do not want to receive if you are too sick to speak for yourself. An advance directive can be written or spoken.

A written advance directive must be dated and signed.

A spoken advance directive must be witnessed by two people.

It is your responsibility to tell your doctor if you have an advance directive. If you are not able to tell your doctor or you don't have a written advance directive, someone else, such as a friend, family member or hospital staff, can tell the doctor your wishes.

Your advance directive will automatically be canceled at any time if:

- You complete a new form;
- You tell your doctor you want to change it;
or,
- It is destroyed.

If you are interested in these documents, please contact either of the offices below to receive copies of the forms.

Office of the Attorney General
200 St. Paul Pl.
Baltimore, MD 21202-2021
410-576-6327

Or, you can go to **OAG.State.MD.US/Healthpol/** and download the forms.

You can also ask if your primary care doctor can help you obtain these forms.