

**An Advance Directive is a statement of rights and preferences so that others know what you want if you lose the capacity to say so.**

# RIGHT

**To give or refuse informed consent.**

**For example, you can specify:**

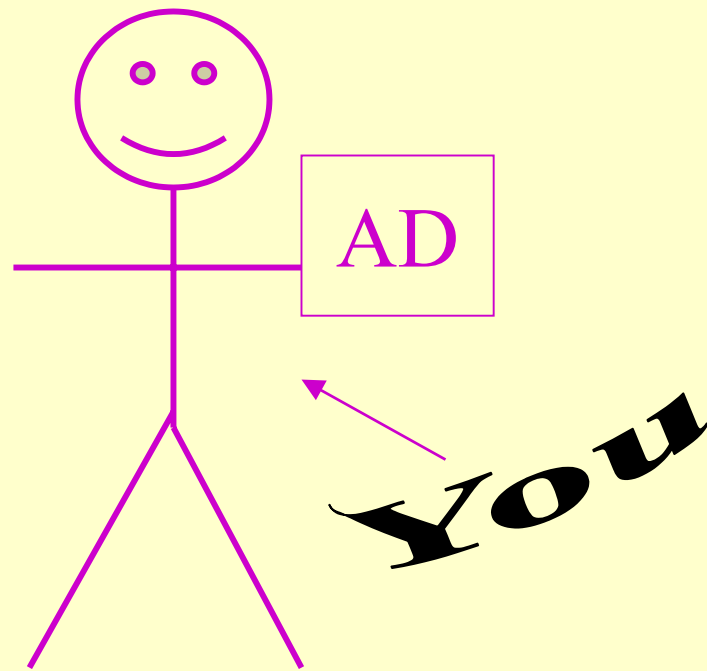
- No blue pills
- No hospitalization unless holdable
- Other rights (ask for a copy)

# PREFERENCES

**You know your own history. You can specify treatment preferences and other directions. They are not binding.**

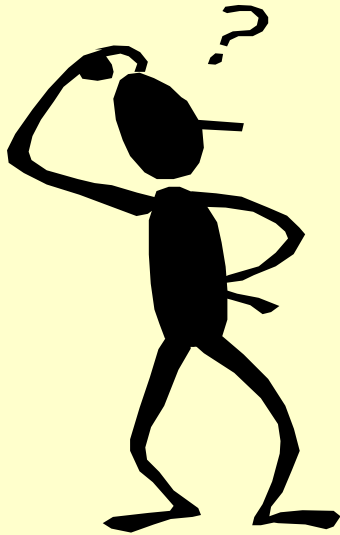
- Red pills help
- Want St. Dymphna Hospital
- Mom watches cat
- Brother is payee

**When you go into the hospital, you keep your rights and preferences.**

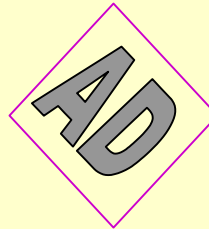
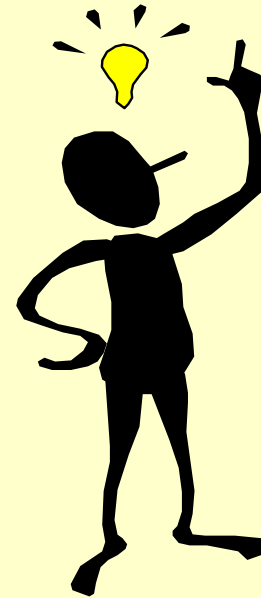


# If your doctor decides you can't make informed choices for yourself.....

YOU



Your Doctor

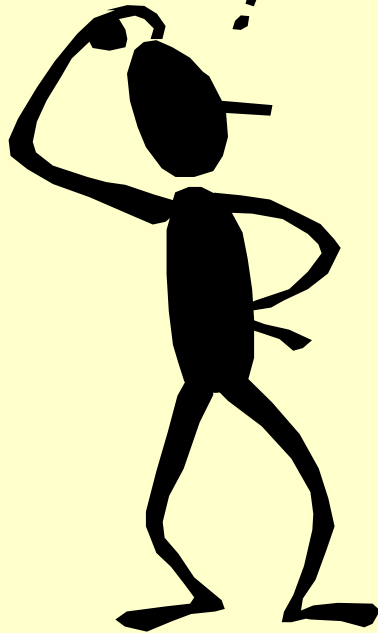


**Your Advance Directive authorizes  
your agent to make those choices.**

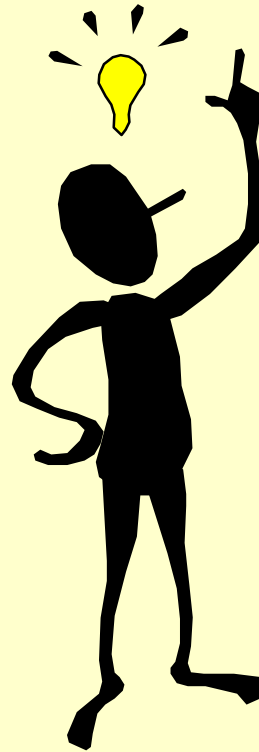


# Your rights are legally binding.

You?



Your Doctor



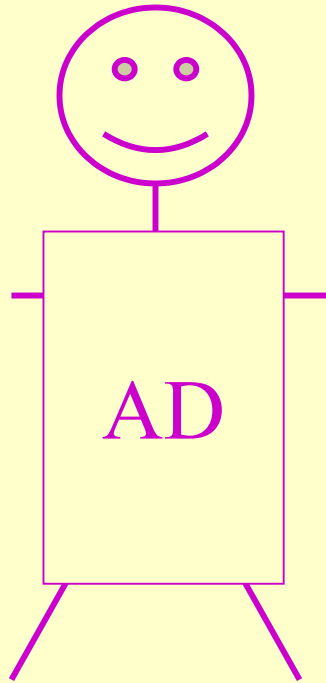
Your Agent



# Your preferences are not.



**You don't gain rights just because  
they are stated in your  
Advance Directive.**



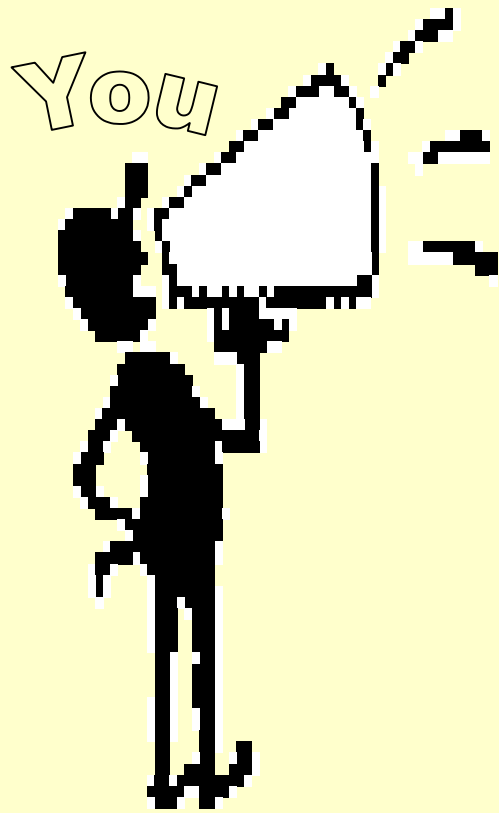
# But your preferences help your treatment team.

Doctor

We'll try the red pills.



# You have the right to revoke your Advance Directive at any time.



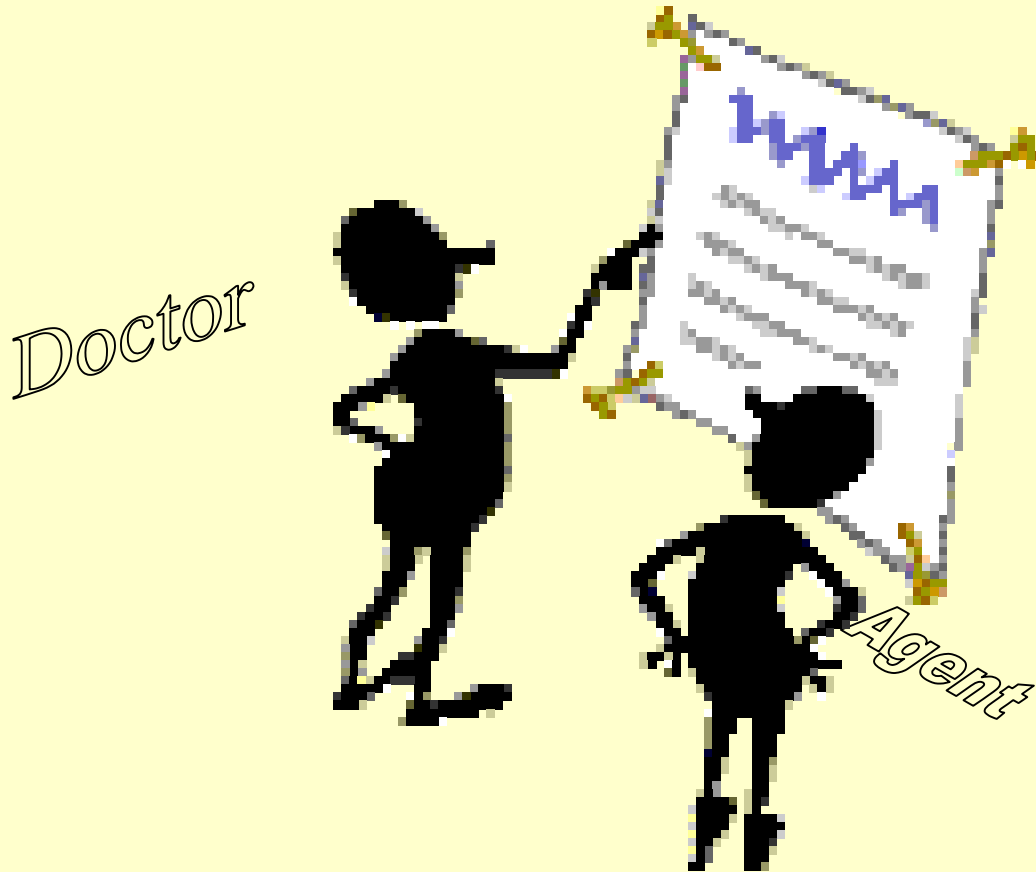
Give It Back



Or your doctor might decide you  
are better.



**When you make an Advance Directive give copies to your agent and doctor.**



**Make sure your agent's address is  
up to date.**

Agent



**Your agent may make  
decisions for you on your  
behalf.**

**If you have not specified otherwise, your agent may  
make the choices he/she believes you would have  
made.**

**You may have alternate agents.**

**Remember to keep you advance directive up to date. If it changes, you must make a new one.**

**You can put an expiration date if you prefer.**