

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:

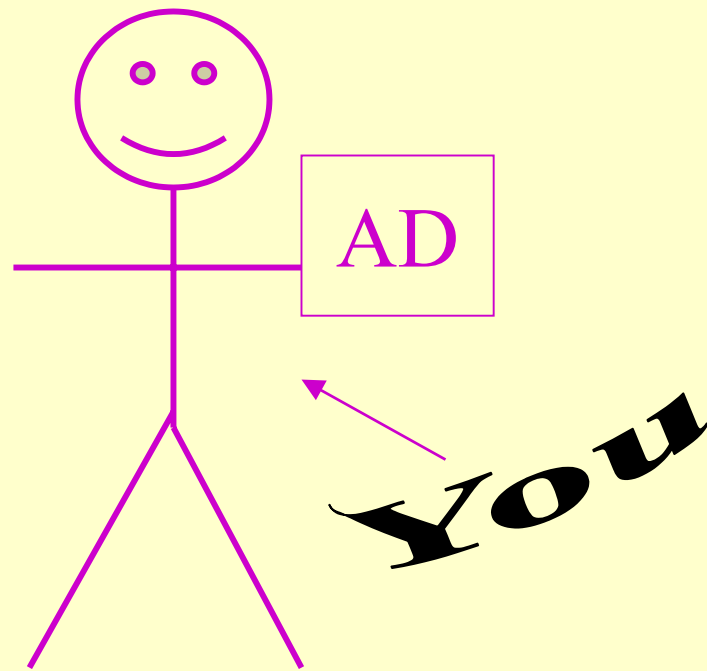
- No blue pills
- No hospitalization unless holdable
- Other rights (ask for a copy)

PREFERENCES

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

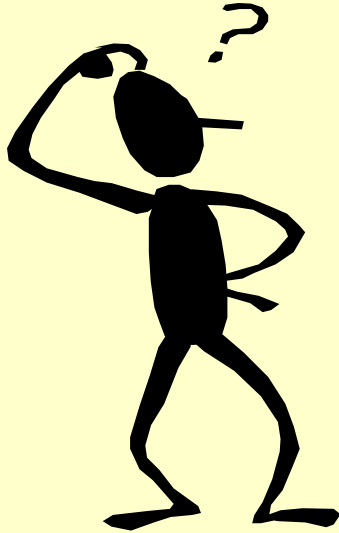
- Red pills help
- Want St. Dymphna Hospital
- Mom watches cat
- Brother is payee

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

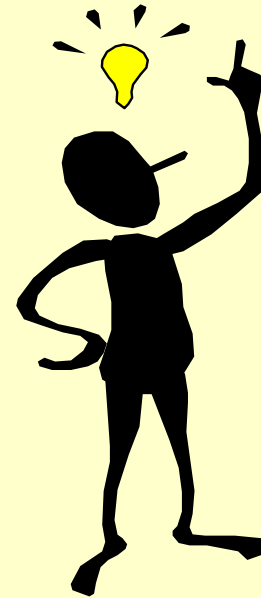


If your doctor decides you can't make informed choices for yourself.....

YOU



Your Doctor



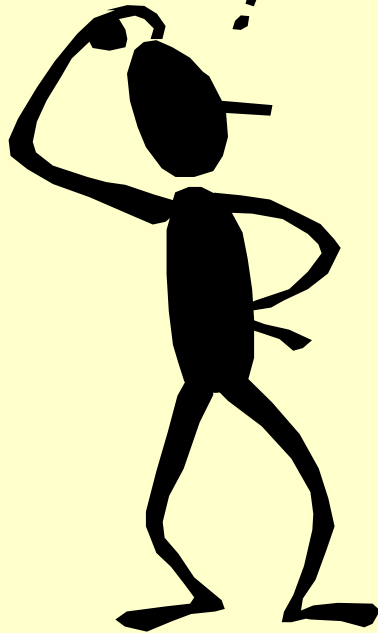
AD

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



Your rights are legally binding.

You?



Your Doctor



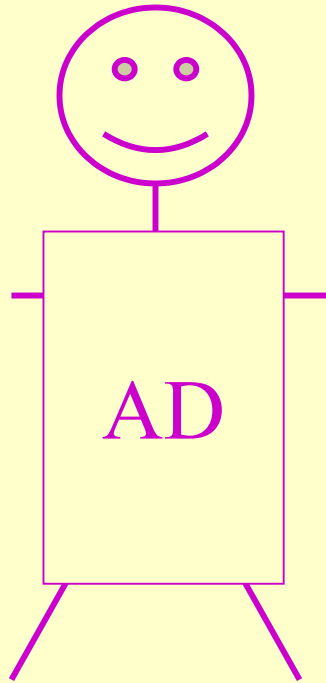
Your Agent



Your preferences are not.



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



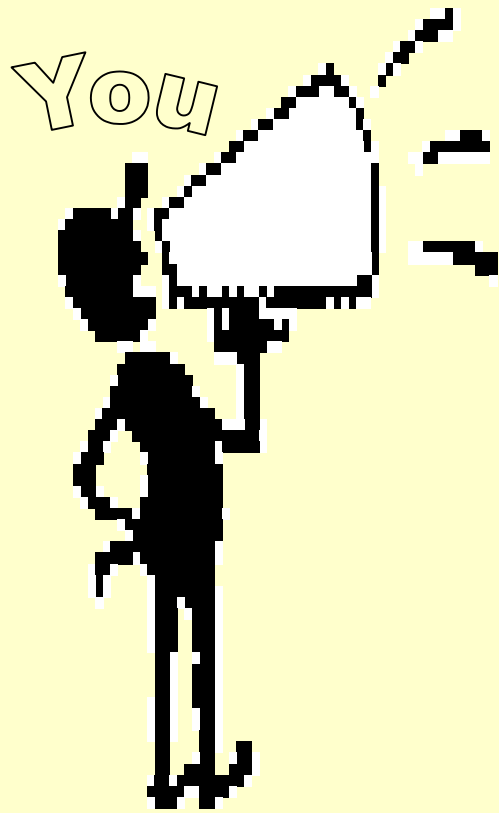
But your preferences help your treatment team.

Doctor

We'll try the red pills.



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



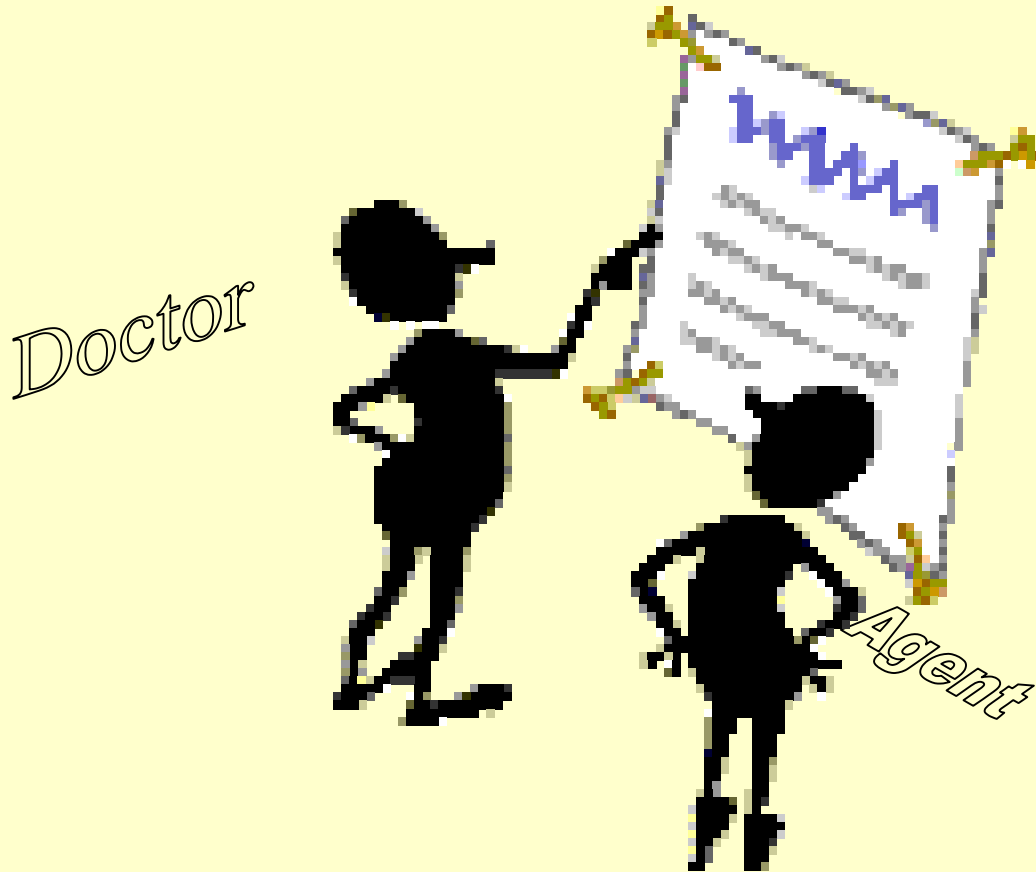
Give It Back



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.