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Advanced Directives

1. It is recognized that The Endoscopy Center does not perform either high risk or problem-prone surgical procedures in this facility. These cases will be performed only in an acute-care hospital setting.
2. Physicians should involve the patient in the process of his or her right to participate in decisions regarding the intensity and scope of their treatment. If a patient indicates that they have executed an Advance Directive, it is important for the physician to inform the patient that The Endoscopy Center does not honor an Advance Directive at this facility. Should the patient have an advanced directive they are requested to bring it and it will be placed on the chart. Patients will be admitted to the hospital for surgery should they want an Advance Directive honored while undergoing surgery.
3. If a patient requests information for assistance in formulating an Advance Directive, it will be provided upon request.
4. If a patient's diagnosis or treatment is of such a nature as to suggest that ethical considerations should be considered, the physician will inform the patient or their legal representative that the execution of an Advance Directive may be in order.
5. We do not honor "Advance Directives" but will file a copy on your medical chart if requested.
6. In the event of a medical emergency, you, the patient, will be stabilized and transported to the nearest hospital as quickly as possible.

It is the policy of The Center for Digestive and Liver Health and The Endoscopy Center to ask each patient about advance directives they may have executed and place a copy in the medical record. However, it will not be enforced as long as the patient is present and being treated. If an emergent event occurs, the patient will be treated and stabilized then transferred to Memorial Hospital where a copy of the advance directives will be sent along with other pertinent patient information.

If you are interested in information regarding Advance Directives you can contact:
Georgia Division of Aging Services, 2 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 9.398, Atlanta, GA 30303-3142 or call the Division's information and Referral Specialist at (404) 657-5319. Copies of the Advance Directives forms and its instructions are available at no cost to you at the following websites:

<http://aging.dhr.georgia.gov/DHR-DAS/GEORGIA%20ADVANCE%20DIRECTIVE%20FORHEALTH%20CARE-07.PDF>

<http://gha.org/publications/public/other/AdvanceDirective.pdf>