ADVANCED DIRECTIVES

Policy Statement

Due to the elective nature of the procedures performed in this Surgery Center, treatment will not be withheld if an unexpected complication arises. If there is a need to transfer a patient to a hospital for additional care measures beyond what can be provided in the Surgery Center, the patient’s Advance Directive will be in their medical record and will be shared with the hospital and caregivers upon transfer.

Who Should Know This Policy

☐ Pre-Op Staff   ☑ All Employees   ☑ Clinical Director
☐ Post-Op Staff  ☐ All Clinical Staff  ☑ Medical Director
☐ PACU Staff     ☐ All Business Office Staff ☑ Administrator
            ☑ Business Office Coordinator

Procedures

The center provides the patient or, as appropriate, the patient’s representative in advance of the date of the procedure, with information concerning its policies on advance directives, including a description of applicable state laws and if requested, official Virginia Advance Directive forms.

Inform the patient or, as appropriate the patient’s representative of the patient’s rights to make informed decisions regarding the patient’s care.

The center will document whether or not the individual has executed an Advance Directive or living will in a prominent part of the patient’s medical record.

In the event a patient presents to the surgery center with a copy of an Advanced Directive or a Living Will, the patient will be informed that advanced directives and living wills will not be honored at the center but will be provided to an acute care facility if transfer becomes necessary.

A copy of the Advanced Directive and/or Living Will will be placed on the patient’s medical record.

If transfer to an acute care hospital becomes necessary, a copy of the Advanced Directive or Living Will will be provided to the hospital as part of the patient’s chart.

If information regarding advanced directives is requested, a copy of Inova’s “Your Right to Decide” will be provided to the patient. This gives information on Advanced Directives,
Living Wills and provides sample documents which will meet the requirements of the Virginia Healthcare Decisions Act.

The following positions are responsible for the accuracy of the information contained in this document:

- Administrator
- Medical Director
- Clinical Director
- Business Office Coordinator
- Assistant Vice President

Revised: May, 2013

REFERENCE: AAAHC Standards, Rights of Patients, Chapter 1, Section F-8