



Mendocino County

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

Mental Health Plan

Your Right To Make Decisions About Medical Treatment

Mental Health Plan 24 hour Access Line

1-800-555-5906 (Toll Free)

Crisis Line 24 Hour Access Line

1 (855) 838-0404 (Toll Free)

Sí usted habla español, esta información está disponible en español, por favor vea la recepcionista o llame 1-800-555-5906

This document explains your right to make healthcare decisions and how you can plan now for your medical care if you are unable to speak for yourself in the future.

A federal law requires us to give you this information. We hope this information will help increase your control over your medical treatment.

Who decides about my treatment?

Your doctors will give you information and advice about treatment. You have the right to choose. You can say “Yes” to treatments you want. You can say “No” to any treatment that you don’t want – even if the treatment might keep you alive longer.

How do I know what I want?

Your doctor must tell you about your medical condition and about what different treatments and pain management alternatives can do for you. Many treatments have “side effects”. Your doctor must offer you information about problems that medical treatment is likely to cause you. Often, more than one treatment might help you and people have different ideas about which is best. Your doctor can tell you which treatments are available to you, but your doctor can’t choose for you. That choice is yours to make and depends on what is important to you.

Can other people help with my decisions?

Yes. Patients often turn to their relatives and close friends for help in making medical decisions. These people can help you think about the choices you face. You can ask the doctors and

nurses to talk with your relatives and friends. They can ask the doctors and nurses questions for you.

Can I choose a relative or friend to make healthcare decisions for me?

Yes. You may tell your doctor that you want someone else to make healthcare decisions for you. Ask the doctor to list that person as your healthcare “surrogate” in your medical record. The surrogate’s control over your medical decisions is effective only during treatment for your current illness or injury or, if you are in a medical facility, until you leave the facility.

What if I become too sick to make my own healthcare decisions?

If you haven’t named a surrogate, your doctor will ask your closest available relative or friend to help decide what is best for you. Most of the time that works, but sometimes everyone doesn’t agree about what to do. That’s why it is helpful if you can say in advance what you want to happen if you cannot speak for yourself.

Do I have to wait until I am sick to express my wishes about healthcare?

No. In fact, it is better to choose before you get very sick or have to go into a hospital, nursing home, or other healthcare facility. You can use an Advance Health Care Directive to say who you want to speak for you and what kind of treatments you want. These documents are called 'advance' because you prepare one before healthcare decisions need to be made. They are called 'directives' because they state who will speak on your behalf and what should be done.

In California, the part of an advance directive you can use to appoint an agent to make healthcare decisions is called a Power of Attorney for Health Care. The part where you can express what you want done is called an Individual Health Care Instruction.

Who can make an advance directive?

You can if you are 18 years or older and are capable of making your own medical decisions. You do not need a lawyer.

Who can I name as my agent?

You can choose an adult relative or any other person you trust

to speak for you when medical decisions must be made.

When does my agent begin making my medical decisions?

Usually, a healthcare agent will make decisions only after you lose the ability to make them yourself. But, if you wish, you can state in the Power of Attorney for Health Care that you want the agent to begin making decisions immediately.

How does my agent know what I would want?

After you choose your agent, talk to that person about what you want. Sometimes treatment decisions are hard to make, and it truly helps if your agent knows what you want. You can also write your wishes down in your advance directive.

What if I don't want to name an agent?

You can still write out your wishes in your advance directive, without naming an agent. You can say that you want to have your life continued as long as possible. Or you can say that you would not want treatment to continue your life. Also, you can express your wishes about the use of pain relief or any other type of medical treatment.

Even if you have not filled out a written Individual Health Care

Instruction, you can discuss your wishes with your doctor, and ask your doctor to list those wishes in your medical record. Or you can discuss your wishes with your family members or friends. But it will probably be easier to follow your wishes if you write them down.

What if I change my mind?

You can change or cancel your advance directive at any time as long as you can communicate your wishes. To change the person you want to make your healthcare decisions, you must sign a statement or tell the doctor in charge of your care.

What happens when someone else makes decisions about my treatment?

The same rules apply to anyone who makes healthcare decisions on your behalf – a healthcare agent, a surrogate whose name you gave to your doctor, or a person appointed by a court to make decisions for you. All are required to follow your Health Care Instructions or, if none, your general wishes about treatment, including stopping treatment. If your treatment wishes are not known, the surrogate must try to determine what is in your best interest.

The people providing your health care must follow the decisions of your agent or surrogate unless a requested treatment would be bad medical practice or ineffective in helping you. If this causes disagreement that cannot be worked out, the provider must make a reasonable effort to find another healthcare provider to take over your treatment.

Will I still be treated if I don't make an advance directive?

Absolutely. You will still get medical treatment. We just want you to know that if you become too sick to make decisions, someone else will have to make them for you. Remember that:

- ▶ A Power of Attorney for Health Care lets you name an agent to make decisions for you. Your agent can make most medical decisions – not just those about life sustaining treatment – when you can't speak for yourself. You can also let your agent make decisions earlier, if you wish.
- ▶ You can create an Individual Healthcare Instruction by writing down your wishes about health care or by talking with your doctor and asking the doctor to record your wishes in your medical file. If you know when you would or would not want certain types of treatment, an Instruction provides a good way to make your wishes clear to your doctor and to

anyone else who may be involved in deciding about treatment on your behalf.

These two types of Advance Healthcare Directives may be used together or separately.

How can I get more information about making an advance directive?

Ask your doctor, nurse, social worker, or healthcare provider to get more information for you. You can have a lawyer write an advance directive for you, or you can complete an advance directive by filling in the blanks on a form.

English

ATTENTION: If you need help in your language call 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Aids and services for people with disabilities, like documents in braille and large print, are also available. Call 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). These services are free of charge.

العربية (Arabic)

يُرجى الانتباه: إذا احتجت إلى المساعدة بلغتك، فاتصل بـ 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). تتوفر أيضًا المساعدات والخدمات للأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة، مثل المستندات المكتوبة

بطريقة بريل والخط الكب ري. اتصل بـ 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). هذه الخدمات مجانية.

Հայերեն (Armenian)

ՈՒՇԱԴՐՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ: Եթե Ձեզ օգնություն է հարկավոր Ձեր լեզվով, զանգահարեք 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711): Կան նաև օժանդակ միջոցներ ու ծառայություններ հաշմանդամություն ունեցող անձանց համար, օրինակ՝ Բրայլի գրատիպով ու խոշորատառ տպագրված նյութեր: Զանգահարեք 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711): Այդ ծառայություններն անվճար են:

ខ្មែរ (Cambodian)

ចំណេះ ប រើអ្នក រួម ការជំនួយ ជាភាសា រ សំអ្នក សូម
ទូរស័ព្ទ ទៅប េខ 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711)។ ជំនួយ
និង បសវាកម្ម េខ េជនពិការ
ដូចជាឯកសារសរសេរជាអ្នកសរសេរ េខ
េជនពិការភ្នែក ឬឯកសារសរសេរជាអ្នកសរសេរ េខ
ក៏អាចរកបានផងដែរ។ ទូរស័ព្ទ ទៅប េខ 1-800-555-
5906 (TTY: 711)។ បសវាកម្ម េខ េជនពិការ េខ
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繁體中文 (Chinese)

请注意：如果您需要以您的母语提供帮助，请致电 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711)。另外还提供针对残疾人士的帮助和服务，例如盲文和需要较大字体阅读，也是方便取用的。请致电 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711)。这些服务都是免费的。

فارسی (Farsi)

توجه: اگر می‌خواهید به زبان خود کمک دریافت کنید، با 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711) تماس بگیرید. کمکها و خدمات مخصوص افراد دارای معلولیت، مانند نسخه‌های خط بریل و چاپ با حروف بزرگ، نیز موجود است. این خدمات رایگان ارائه میشوند.

हिंदी (Hindi)

ध्यान दें: अगर आपको अपनी भाषा में सहायता की आवश्यकता है तो 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711) पर कॉल करें। अशक्तता वाले लोगों के

ललए सहायता और सेवाएँ , जैसे ब्रेल और बडे लरोंट में भी दस्तावेज़ उपलब्ध हैं। 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711) पर कॉल करें। ये सेवाएँ लनः शुल्क हैं।

Hmoob (Hmong)

CEEB TOOM: Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais koj hom lus hu rau 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Muaj cov kev pab txhawb thiab kev pab cuam rau cov neeg xiam oob qhab, xws li puav leej muaj ua cov ntawv su thiab luam tawm ua tus ntawv loj. Hu rau 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Cov kev pab cuam no yog pab dawb xwb.

日本語 (Japanese)

注意日本語での対応が必要な場合は 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711)へお電話ください。点字の資料や文字の拡大表示など、障がいをお持ちの方のためのサービスも用意しています。 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711)へお電話ください。これらのサービスは無料で提供しています。

한국어 (Korean)

유의사항: 귀하의 언어로 도움을 받고 싶으시면 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711) 번으로 문의하십시오. 점자나 큰 활자로 된 문서와 같이 장애가 있는 분들을 위한 도움과 서비스도 이용 가능합니다. 1-800-555-5906

(TTY: 711) 번으로 문의하십시오. 이러한 서비스는 무료로 제공됩니다.

ພາສາລາວ (Laotian)

ປະກາດ: ຖ້າທ່ານຕ້ອງການຄວາມຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອໃນພາສາຂອງທ່ານໃຫ້ໂທຫາເບີ 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). ຍັງມີຄວາມຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອແລະການບໍລິການສໍາລັບຄົນພິການເຊັ່ນເອກະສານທີ່ເປັນອັກສອນນູນແລະມີໂຕພິມໃຫຍ່ໃຫ້ໂທຫາເບີ 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). ການບໍລິການເຫຼົ່ານີ້ບໍ່ຕ້ອງເສຍຄ່າໃຊ້ຈ່າຍໃດ

Mien

LONGC HNYOUV JANGX LONGX OC: Beiv taux meih qiemx longc mienh tengx faan benx meih nyei waac nor douc waac daaih lorx taux 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Liouh lorx jauv-louc tengx aengx caux nzie gong bun taux ninh mbuo wuaaic fangx mienh, beiv taux longc benx nzangc-pokc bun hluo mbiutc aengx caux aamz mborqv benx domh sou se mbenc nzoih bun longc. Douc waac daaih lorx 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Naaiv deix nzie weih gong-bou jauv-louc se benx wang-henh tengx mv zuqc cuotv nyaanh oc.

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi)

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿਚ ਸੁ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਪ ਿੱਚ ਮਿ ਿ ਿੀ
ਲੜੇ ਜ ਤਾ ਕਾਲ ਕਰ 1-800-555-5906

(TTY: 711). ਅਪਾਹਜ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਲਈ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਅਤੇ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਪ੍ਰਸ਼
ਧਕ ਬੋਲ ਅਤੇ ਮੋਟੀ ਛਪਾਈ ਪਿੱਛੇ ਸਿੱਟਾ ਰੱਖ, ਜੋ ਉਪਲਬੱ
ਹਨ। ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711).
ਇਹ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਮੁਫਤ ਹਨ।

Русский (Russian)

ВНИМАНИЕ! Если вам нужна помощь на вашем родном языке, звоните по номеру 1-800-555-5906 (линия TTY: 711). Также предоставляются средства и услуги для людей с ограниченными возможностями, например документы крупным шрифтом или шрифтом Брайля. Звоните по номеру 1-800-555-5906 (линия TTY: 711). Такие услуги предоставляются бесплатно.

Español (Spanish)

ATENCIÓN: si necesita ayuda en su idioma, llame al 1-800-555-5906

(TTY: 711). También ofrecemos asistencia y servicios para personas con discapacidades, como documentos en braille y con letras grandes. Llame al 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Estos servicios son gratuitos.

Tagalog (Filipino)

ATENSIYON: Kung kailangan mo ng tulong sa iyong wika, tumawag sa

1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Mayroon ding mga tulong at serbisyo para sa mga taong may kapansanan, tulad ng mga

dokumento sa braille at malaking print. Tumawag sa 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Libre ang mga serbisyong ito.

ภาษาไทย (Thai)

โปรดทราบ: หากคุณต้องการความช่วยเหลือเป็นภาษาของคุณ กรุณาโทรศัพท์ไปที่หมายเลข

1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711) น

นอกจากนี้ ยังพร้อมให้ความช่วยเหลือและบริการต่าง ๆ ส

หรับบุคคลที่มีความพิการ เช่น เอกสารต่าง ๆ

ที่เป็นอักษรเบรลล์และเอกสารที่พิมพ์ด้วยตัวอักษรขนาด

ใหญ่ กรุณาโทรศัพท์ไปที่หมายเลข 1-800-555-5906

(TTY: 711) ไม่มีค่าใช้จ่ายสำหรับบริการเหล่านี้

Українська (Ukrainian)

УВАГА! Якщо вам потрібна допомога вашою рідною мовою, телефонуйте на номер 1-800-555-5906 (TTY:

711). Люди з обмеженими можливостями також можуть скористатися допоміжними засобами та послугами,

наприклад, отримати документи, надруковані шрифтом Брайля та великим шрифтом. Телефонуйте на номер 1-

800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Ці послуги безкоштовні.

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

CHÚ Ý: Nếu quý vị cần trợ giúp bằng ngôn ngữ của mình, vui lòng gọi số 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Chúng tôi cũng hỗ trợ và cung cấp các dịch vụ dành cho người khuyết tật, như tài

liệu bằng chữ nổi Braille và chữ khổ lớn (chữ hoa). Vui lòng gọi số 1-800-555-5906 (TTY: 711). Các dịch vụ này đều miễn phí.

Patients' Rights Advocate
Defensor de los Derechos del Paciente
(800) 970-5816

Mendocino County Mental Health Plan (MPH) offers free Language or interpreter assistance, Sign Language, or California Relay Services (TTY/TDD) for beneficiaries requesting or accessing services.

These services may be requested at any Mental Health Plan Provider site or by calling 1-800-555-5906

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