

Differences Between Advance Directives and Medical Orders

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Document Type	Legal Document	Medical Order	Medical Order
Created By	Individual	Physician	Physician
Who Needs One	Every Adult	Individuals with Advanced Illness	Individuals with Advanced Illness
Describes End of Life Treatment Wishes	Yes	No	Yes
Designates Healthcare Surrogate	Yes	No	No
Covers Resuscitation following Cardiac Event	No	Yes	Yes
Is EMS Required to Follow	No	Yes	Yes
Can be changed by Surrogate	Yes	No	No
Copy Should Reside with Medical Provider	Yes	Yes	Yes
Medical Bracelet Recommended to Inform EMS	Yes	Yes	Yes
Responsibility for Periodic Review and Update	Individual	Physician	Physician