

**Notice of Advance Directive Policy:**

All patients have the right to participate in their own health care decisions and to make Advance Directives or to execute Powers of Attorney that authorize others to make decisions on their behalf based on patients expressed wishes when the patient is unable to make decisions or unable to communicate decisions. This Surgery Center respects and upholds those rights.

However, unlike in an acute care hospital setting, the surgery center does not routinely perform “high risk” procedures. Most procedures performed in this facility are considered to be of minimal risk. Of course, no surgery is without risk. You will discuss the specifics of your procedure with your physician who can answer your questions as to its risks, your expected recovery, and care after your surgery.

Therefore, it is our policy, as a matter of conscience and as permitted by New Jersey Statute regardless of the contents of any Advance Directive or instructions from a Health Care Surrogate or Attorney in fact, that if an adverse event or unexpected deterioration occurs during your treatment at this facility we will initiate resuscitative or other stabilizing measures and transfer you to an acute care hospital for further evaluation. At the acute care hospital further treatment or withdrawal of treatment measures already begun will be ordered in accordance with your wishes, Advance Directive or Health Care Power of Attorney. Your agreement with this policy does not revoke or invalidate any current health care directive or Health Care Power of Attorney.

If you do have a Advance Directive or instructions from a Health Care Surrogate or Attorney in fact please provide a copy to the NYC Joint & Spine staff.

Your Advance Directive or instructions from a Health Care Surrogate or Attorney in fact will become part of your medical record and will be transferred with you in the event of a transfer to an acute level facility.

If you do not agree to this policy, we will be pleased to assist you with rescheduling your procedure.

I am acknowledging my agreement with the NYC Joint & Spine Center’s policy on Advance Directives.