



# QRTIPS

Health Care Agency • Behavioral Health Services • CYS Quality, Review & Training

July 2013

## What is an Advanced Health Care Directive and why is it important?

Advance care directives allow clients to provide instructions about their preferences regarding the care they would like to receive if they develop an illness or a life-threatening injury and are unable to express their preferences. Advance care directives can also designate someone the patient trusts to make decisions about medical care if the client becomes unable to make (or communicate) these decisions. This is called **designating “power of attorney (for health care).”**

**Federal law requires** hospitals, nursing homes, and other institutions that **receive Medicare or Medicaid funds to provide written information** regarding advance care directives to all clients when they initiate treatment.

For more information see the California Attorney Generals website: [http://oag.ca.gov/consumers/general/adv\\_hc\\_dir](http://oag.ca.gov/consumers/general/adv_hc_dir)

## For all Mental Health Plan (County and contract) providers:

- Providers shall provide written information regarding Advance Directives to **adult consumers** when they **have their first face-to-face service contact** with the consumer and, thereafter, upon request from a consumer.
- Material provided shall be the [Advance Health Care Directives Information Sheet](#).
- Provision of this material **shall be documented in the initial progress note** and on the [Intake/Advisement checklist](#).
- For clients **18-years and older** it is required that the “Advanced Directive Information sheet” presented during **first initial contact following the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday** and documented on **Intake/Advisement Checklist**.

I received a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices		Client/Legal-Guardian-Initials
I completed the receipt of Notices of Privacy Practices		Client/Legal-Guardian-Initials
<b>Advance Directive (Consumers 18 years old and older)</b> (For CYS Clients: Complete this section at the first review after client turns 18 yrs old)		
I was given the Advanced Directive Information Sheet		Client/Legal-Guardian-Initials
I gave the MHP staff my Advance Directive today	Date	Client/Legal-Guardian-Signature
Consumer/Legal-guardian signature		Date

When the client presents their advance directive the client’s signature and date is required in this section of the Intake/Advisement form.

- In the event an adult consumer presents a completed, appropriately witnessed and signed executed Advance Directive to staff members and/or contracted providers of the MHP, the Advance Directive shall be **placed in the consumer’s mental health medical record** and the **presence of the Advance Directive shall be noted prominently** in the chart by putting a **red label** stating “Advance Directive” on the **front of the chart**.

CYS/QIPC has **Advanced Health Care information sheets** in **English, Farsi, Spanish, and Vietnamese** available on the [CYS QRT download](#) page.

**Intake/Advisement Checklists** in **English, Farsi, Spanish, and Vietnamese** are also available on [CYS/QRT download](#) page.