

Who is your medical treatment decision maker?

If you are unable to make your own medical decisions, Victoria's *Medical Treatment Planning and Decisions Act 2016* specifies who has legal authority to make medical treatment decisions for you. This person is called your medical treatment decision maker.

The **first person**, 18 years or older, in the list below is your medical treatment decision maker.

1. You have appointed a medical treatment decision maker

(Appointments made prior to 12 March 2018 remain valid. These include a medical enduring power of attorney, an enduring power of attorney for personal matters, an enduring power of guardianship with healthcare powers).



This is your medical treatment decision maker

2. A Guardian has been appointed by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) to make decisions about your medical treatment



This is your medical treatment decision maker

3. The **first available person** in the list below, who is in a close and continuing relationship with you, will be your medical treatment decision maker:

- a) Your spouse or domestic partner
- b) Your primary carer (Not a paid service provider)
- c) Your adult child
- d) Your parent
- e) Your adult sibling

If you have two or more relatives who are first on the list, it is the eldest.

What is advance care planning?

Advance Care Planning is a process of planning for your future healthcare. This ensures those close to you know what is important to you, what preferences you have regarding medical care and who you want to make decisions for you when you are unable to do this for yourself.

For more information or assistance with advance care planning contact:

Monash Health Advance Care Planning Program



Phone 03 9594 3475



acp@monashhealth.org

Forms and guides available for download from:

www.monashhealth.org/page/advance_care_planning



Interpreter Service
Phone 131 450

Who will help make medical decisions for you?



Advance Care Planning

Planning ahead for your future healthcare

MonashHealth

What would happen if you became very sick or had a serious accident and could not talk to your doctor about your treatment?

WHO WILL HELP MAKE MEDICAL DECISIONS FOR YOU?

HOW WILL THEY KNOW WHAT YOU WOULD WANT?

ADVANCE

A. Appoint Another

Medical treatment decision maker:

You can appoint your medical treatment decision maker using the 'Appointment of medical treatment decision maker' form.

The person you choose should know your values and preferences. You should trust them to make decisions for you when you can't do this yourself.

Support Person:

You can also appoint a support person using the 'Appointment of a support person' form. The support person helps you, while you are still able to make your decisions, to understand your healthcare options and communicate your medical treatment decisions.

CARE

C. Chat and communicate

Think

Think about your values and preferences and what living well means for you. This includes your religious, spiritual and cultural beliefs and attitudes about medical care.

Talk

Talk about these with your:

- Medical treatment decision maker, support person, family, friends, carer
- Doctor, or
- Other healthcare practitioner(s) involved in your care, for example: Dentist, Nurse, Social Worker, Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Pharmacist, Psychologist.

PLANNING

P. Put it on paper

Write down your preferences in an advance care directive, or in a letter describing your healthcare preferences. This makes sure your preferences and values are known to your medical treatment decision maker. If you do not have a medical treatment decision maker your advance care directive can help your healthcare practitioner know what is important to you.

Sharing your plan:

Give a copy of your advance care planning documents to your medical treatment decision maker, GP, Hospital and other health practitioners involved in your care.

ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

Planning ahead for your future healthcare