



Respecting Patient Choices

An Advance Care Planning Program

If you became seriously ill, or had a serious accident, and were not going to return to normal, what sort of medical treatment would you want?

Who would you want to make decisions for you about your medical treatment?

If we know your choices for future health care we are able to respect them.

The Respecting Patient Choices (RPC) Program helps us understand your wishes about future treatment. The people who care for you, including your family and friends, can be helped by having this information, particularly if you become seriously ill and are unable to make decisions for yourself.



The RPC Consultants can help you think and talk about the medical treatment that you would or would not want. This gives you the opportunity to plan your care in advance and is called **Advance Care Planning**. Once you have thought about these things, and spoken to your family about them, we can also assist you to write down what is important to you. This document is called an **Advance Care Plan (ACP)** and includes the opportunity for you to nominate a family member or friend to make important decisions for you when you are unable to make decisions for yourself about medical treatment. This person is known as your Enduring Power of Attorney (Medical Treatment) or your 'agent'.

What if I change my mind about my wishes?

You can change or cancel your plans at any time. You can also change the agent that you have chosen.

Who can help me with advance care planning?

Respecting Patient Choices Consultants can help you think about, understand and make decisions about what is important to you with regard to medical treatment, particularly life prolonging treatments. If required, they can also find out information on your behalf, about your illness and potential treatments, in order to assist you with decision making.

For further information and assistance with talking about your treatment preferences ask to see a Respecting Patient Choices Consultant or call