

## How to Help Your Patients Prepare for an ED Visit!



Long Version: 4:23



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Short Version: 3:11

Utilize these public service videos  
in your ED or community!  
Stress the importance of being  
prepared and the  
“Emergency-GO-Bag”.

<http://www.hscj.ufl.edu/emergency-medicine/RiversideProject.aspx>

## Advance Directive Checklist for the Emergency Department

A resuscitation pause is when providers take a “time out” to ensure that all care team members—including the patient and family—are clear about the patient’s prognosis and preferences of care. Physicians can use the A-B-C-D-E checklist to pause, ensuring that patient wishes are understood.

### Provider Checklist

**A**sk patients or caregivers about the intention of the advance directive.

**B**e clear about the patient’s condition—differentiating terminal, non-treatable conditions from critical, treatable ones.

**C**ommunicate clearly with patients and care team members if you feel a patient’s condition is reversible and/or treatable.

**D**iscuss next steps with patients or caregivers using an action plan to determine how to respond to a patient’s wishes under critical conditions.

**E**xplain to all involved in a patient’s care—from family members to the care team—that it is okay to withhold or withdraw certain care if it correlates with the patient’s perceived wishes. This can set the stage for discussions around hospice or palliative care.

Source: Ferdinando Mirarchi, MD

### Family Checklist

**A**nnounce to the medical team that you have an advance directive (e.g., a living will, DNR, health care power of attorney)

**B**e clear with the medical team about your intentions for treatment in the face of executing the advance directive

**C**ommunicate and **C**oordinate with family members to ensure everyone understands the treatment plan

**D**iscuss next steps

**E**xplore the benefits of palliative and/or hospice care