

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to register my advance directive?

No. A properly signed and witnessed advance directive is a legal document, whether or not it is registered. Registering your document is a voluntary step you can take to ensure that your document is accessible when needed.

Will my information be secure and private?

The Registry is secure and your advance directive is confidential. Only those with a specific need to know, such as your health care providers, can see your advance directive. Others can view your document by sharing the Registration ID number on your wallet ID card with them.

If I am in the hospital and cannot speak for myself, how will the hospital access my document?

Vermont law requires hospitals to check the VADR for an advance directive document whenever a patient without the capacity to make decisions enters the hospital. The hospital can find your document using your wallet ID card or your name and date of birth.

Trouble logging in?

Call the VADR directly at 1-888-548-9455 or email support@uslwr.com

Need new forms?

Go to www.vtethicsnetwork.org/forms to print forms directly from the Vermont Ethics Network website or call us at (802) 828-2909.



Advance Care Planning Is a Gift to You and Your Family

A sudden illness or accident can happen at any time. Preparing minimizes conflict and uncertainty about decisions that may arise.

Talk to your family, friends and health care providers about what matters most to you.



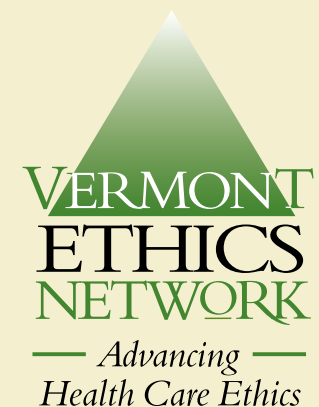
An advance care planning initiative by the Vermont Ethics Network. For more information, contact us at:

802.828.2909
www.TakingStepsVT.org



The Vermont Advance Directive Registry

A Guide



What Is the Vermont Advance Directive Registry?

The Vermont Advance Directive Registry (VADR) is part of the national US Living Will Registry (a.k.a US Advance Care Plan Registry). It is a free, secure online database available to Vermont residents.

Submitted advance directive documents can be accessed by authorized health care facilities and providers.

Benefits of Registering Your Advance Directive:

- ▲ Immediate access to your document when it is most needed
- ▲ Can be accessed anywhere, not just in Vermont
- ▲ Annual reminders to trigger regular review
- ▲ Vermont hospitals are required to check the Registry when a patient arrives at the hospital and does not have the capacity to speak for themselves.

How Do I Register?

1. Complete your advance directive form. It must be signed and properly witnessed.
2. Complete and sign the **Registration Agreement** to allow authorized healthcare facilities and providers to access your document.
3. Send your signed **Registration Agreement** and a copy of your properly signed and witnessed advance directive to:

Vermont Advance Directive Registry
PO Box 2789
Westfield, NJ 07091-2789
Fax: 908-654-1919

Keep the original of your completed advance directive in a safe place, easily found by your family and health care agent.

How do I know my advance directive has been registered?

Within 10-15 days of submitting your advance directive to the Registry, you will receive a confirmation packet in the mail from the VADR which contains the following:

- ▲ A wallet ID card
- ▲ Your Registration ID number
- ▲ Log-in information to access your account online
- ▲ Two VADR stickers & two organ donor stickers

You will receive an annual letter or email from the Registry in the anniversary month of your registration. It is an excellent reminder to look at your advance directive and review your decisions.

How Do I Update My Registered Advance Directive?

1. Complete a new advance directive. It must be properly signed and witnessed.
2. Complete and sign an **Authorization to Change** form to allow the Vermont Advance Directive Registry to update your document.
3. Send your signed **Authorization to Change** form and a copy of your properly signed and witnessed advance directive to:

Vermont Advance Directive Registry
PO Box 2789
Westfield, NJ 07091-2789
Fax: 908-654-1919

Be sure to give copies of your new advance directive to your health care agent, doctor, hospital, and any other friends/family members you choose.

Can I update emergency contact information without completing a new advance directive?

Yes. You can update your emergency contact information, home address and phone number by logging in to your online account and selecting “View/Confirm/Update My Information.” You can also call the Registry at 1-888-548-9455 or send an email to support@uslwr.com with your contact information updates.

