

Advance Health Directives



What is an Advance Health Directive?

There may come a time when you are unable to make decisions regarding your health care.

An **Advance Health Directive** allows you to record your wishes and give directions about your future health care should you ever lose the capacity to do so. It will speak for you if ever you cannot speak for yourself about your wishes.

These wishes could include whether you do or do not want life sustaining measures.

Why is it important?

If you don't have an Advance Health Directive and you lose the capacity to make decisions about the health care and treatment you receive, it becomes necessary for your guardian or attorney to make decisions on your behalf. This can result in you receiving health care that you would not have chosen to receive.

An Advance Health Directive is the simple way to ensure your wishes are followed in legally binding directions.

Planning ahead

Anyone over the age of 18 can make an Advance Health Directive, however it is particularly important if:

- you are about to be admitted to hospital
- your medical condition is likely to affect your ability to make decisions
- you have a chronic medical condition that could result in serious complications such as diabetes, asthma and heart or kidney disease.

Your Advance Health Directive will only commence when and if you lose the capacity to make health decisions for yourself.

Getting advice

Our team of Elder Law specialists can assist you to prepare an Advance Health Directive which is appropriate for your individual circumstances.

You should also discuss your Advance Health Directive with your lawyer, your doctor, family and friends.





Our people

Our experienced team offers understanding and practical solutions to guide you through the range of legal issues affecting you in your retirement years.

BRIAN HERD

Partner

Telephone 07 3236 2900

Email bherd@crhlaw.com.au



MARGARET ARTHUR

Senior Associate

Telephone 07 3236 2900

Email marthur@crhlaw.com.au



REBECCA EDWARDS

Associate

Telephone 07 3236 2900

Email redwards@crhlaw.com.au



Keep up to date

Subscribe to the Elder Law Alert and keep abreast of the latest developments.

To subscribe simply email enquiry@crhlaw.com.au or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Note: The information contained in this document does not constitute legal advice. For advice that takes into account your personal situation we recommend you contact us by calling 07 3236 2900.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under professional standards legislation.

Elder Life Services

- Superannuation
- Gifts or loans to your children
- Loans from your children
- Divorce and property settlements
- Remarrying or re-partnering
- Retirement Villages
- Nursing Homes and Hostels
- Problems with other professionals
- Discrimination
- Selling your home
- Elder abuse
- Reverse Mortgages
- Family Trusts and Companies

Making it a good experience

We believe the key to good relationships is communication. Often older people find dealing with a lawyer to be an intimidating or confusing experience.

For this reason we recommend asking your lawyer 5 key questions at your first meeting:

- Do I have a legal problem?
- Is there some other way to resolve it?
- Explain the issues to me in simple English!
- What will it cost me?
- How long will it take to resolve it?

By asking the right questions up front, you can ensure your relationship with your lawyer is a positive one.

Our Services

CRH Law is a dynamic Queensland-based firm providing specialist advice in:

- Wills and Estates
- Enduring Powers of Attorney
- Workplace & Industrial Law
- Conveyancing
- Aged Care & Retirement Services
- Commercial and Property Law

