



# SAMPLE ADVANCE DIRECTIVE\*

Consider an advance directive for hospice patients or clients who request it.

ABC Animal Clinic is committed to providing patients with state-of-the-art care that considers the quality as well as the quantity of a pet's life.

For patients experiencing advanced disease, advanced age, multiple disease processes, or a disease considered to be terminal, it's appropriate to decide in advance whether aggressive measures of resuscitation will be employed if needed.

Resuscitation of a collapsed or unconscious patient is tailored to meet the needs of the individual but may include any or all of the following:

- Establishing an airway via insertion of an endotracheal tube
- Establishing intravenous access via insertion of an intravenous catheter and administration of fluids and injectable medications through the catheter
- Administration of oxygen through the endotracheal tube
- Chest compressions (external cardiac massage)
- Intracardiac delivery of injectable medications

Alternatively, as the animal's human guardian, you may choose to withhold these aggressive resuscitative measures. This decision should be based on discussions with your veterinarian before any critical events and consider the pet's overall condition and the probability of the animal surviving a resuscitation event.

Should the owner decide to withhold resuscitative measures, the pet's medical record and cage card will clearly display a medical do not resuscitate order.

Do not resuscitate.

PET'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESS' NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESS' SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Note: Legal counsel should review your advance directive to ensure it complies with local, state, and federal law.