“I want to appoint a health care representative.”

What is a health care representative?
A health care representative is someone you choose to make medical decisions for you if you cannot.

What form should I use?
Health care representative forms are available in English and Spanish on the Indiana State Department of Health website.

What happens if I don’t choose someone to make medical decisions for me?
If you don’t make your own choice about a health care representative, Indiana law has a list of decision-makers, in order of priority, who will make decisions for you if you are unable to make them for yourself:

1. A judicially appointed guardian of the person or a representative appointed by a probate court
2. A spouse (unless legally separated or there is a pending petition for separation, dissolution, annulment, protective order or no contact order)
3. An adult child
4. A parent
5. An adult sibling
6. A grandparent
7. An adult grandchild
8. An adult friend (special conditions apply)
9. The nearest other adult relative in the next degree of kinship not listed in 2 through 7

*Note: If there are multiple individuals in any priority group and the group cannot agree, the majority in that group controls the decision making process.

How will Eskenazi Health get a copy?
If you complete the health care representative form on your own, it is important to bring it with you to the hospital or submit it through your Eskenazi Health MyChart account.
“I want to complete a living will.”

What is a living will?
A living will is a written document that states your wishes if you become terminally ill and are unable to communicate. A living will often includes directions for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), artificial nutrition, maintenance on a respirator and blood transfusions.

What form should I use?
Living will declaration forms are available in English and Spanish on the Indiana State Department of Health website.

How will Eskenazi Health get a copy?
If you complete the living will declaration form on your own, it is important to bring it with you to the hospital or submit it through your Eskenazi Health MyChart account.

“What if I’m interested in a Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST)?”

You can learn more about a POST form here. It is something that you need to consult with your doctor, nurse practitioner or physician assistant about. They have to agree that you are medically appropriate for a POST and sign off on your choices.

“I want to learn more about all of my advance directive options.”

Eskenazi Health has a comprehensive document about advance directives available in English and Spanish you may want to consider.