

The COVID-19 pandemic has made advance care planning increasingly vital, particularly for the high-risk population we serve. There are many conversations and much work taking place to ensure our health care system can meet the needs of those who may require care. However, we may need to help prepare people for conversations about how individuals are planning for decisions that they may need to make if they are stricken by this virus.

The virus, combined with people who may have pre-existing conditions, serious illnesses or otherwise, presents many unknowns for seniors and their families. Senior care providers may find themselves in the position to facilitate these conversations about residents' existing health issues and their end-of-life care wishes before situations become emergencies.

Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) and Advance Care Planning have been a part of your regular care plans. But now, more than ever, you may find residents and families seeking information on end-of-life decisions. It is important to have systems and processes in place that support advance care dialogues, and then have those plans in an easily and actionable format to you and your staff team so resident wishes can be honored.

RESOURCE	OVERVIEW	ACCESS THE RESOURCE
COVID-19 Shared	A checklist to guide conversations on	Download the Tool
Decision-Making Tool	end-of-life planning.	
		Source: National Hospice &
		Palliative Care Organization
Advance Care Planning	An overview and key questions on	Download the Guide
Information Guide	Health Care Directives.	Source: Honoring Choice
Guide to Planning Your	A guide to completing your health care	Download the Guide
Health Care Directive	directive.	Source: Honoring Choice
Advance Care Planning	A tool to help individuals learn about	Download the Guide
for Important Health	options, implement plans and voice	
Care Decisions	decisions including Minnesota's Advance	Source: National Hospice &
	Care Directive form.	Palliative Care Organization
5 Wishes Talking	Know the 5 most important things to talk	Download the Guide
About Your Wishes	about when it comes to advance care	
	planning.	Source: Five Wishes

The following resources are being provided to help you facilitate this conversation if needed: