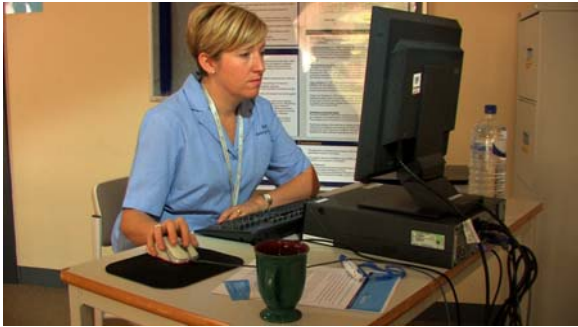


CLINICAL USES: ADVANCE CARE PLANNING AND ADVANCED DIRECTIVES (CNIN MAR 2009)



- You are admitting a patient with Motor Neurone Disease to your service.
- You want to make sure his wishes for future care are understood. Can advance care planning and advanced directives help?

You are admitting a patient with Motor Neurone Disease to your service. You realise there is a lot of tension between the patient and his sister (next of kin) when discussing treatments that have been proposed such as antibiotics, PEG feeding and artificial ventilation.

The patient is determined that he does not want certain things, which his sister disagrees with. You decide to talk to them about Advance Directives so that he can state his wishes formally. You want to find out more about them, so that you can facilitate a conversation with the patient, his sister and his GP.

There are many resources in CareSearch that can support nurses in practice with end-of-life directives.

Initially there is [consumer information](#) in the patients, carers, family and friends topic information section that you can direct them to.

For yourself and any colleagues there is information in the clinical practice section on [Advance Care Planning](#) and on the [evidence and issues](#). There are also [resources for care planning](#).

In the National Palliative Care Program pages information can be found on the [Respecting Patient Choices Program](#), being implemented nationally.

There are also resources that can be accessed in the Finding Evidence section. These include the CareSearch Review Collection topics dealing with [Advance Care Planning](#), and on [Advance Directives](#).

There are also PubMed Topic Searches on [Advance Care Planning](#) and [Advance Directives](#)

CareSearch is an online resource funded by the Department of Health and Ageing to help clinicians and consumers find relevant evidence about palliative care. Available now at www.caresearch.com.au