

CHOC Adolescent to Adult Bridge Program

Decision-Making Support Guide

At 18 years old, patients will be asked to sign for their medical care, make medical decisions, schedule visits, and talk with the doctor at appointments. If your child is unable to do these things on their own, there are several types of support options available. This is general information. For specific questions, talk to your Regional Center worker, or a CHOC social worker.

	Guardianship/Conservatorship	Supported Decision Making	Durable Power of Attorney	Advance Health Care Directive
<i>What is it?</i>	Paperwork from court that lets you make decisions for an adult with disabilities	Family and friends help an adult with disabilities make decisions	Paperwork that has you make decisions for another person <u>only</u> if they cannot speak or communicate	Paperwork that has you tell the doctor about medical choices for another adult if they cannot speak or communicate someday.
<i>How are decisions made?</i>	You make final decision	Adult with disabilities makes decisions after talking to family and friends	You make some decisions or all if another person cannot speak or communicate	You communicate medical choices of adult who cannot speak or communicate
<i>How is need measured?</i>	Doctor, psychologist, or Regional Center fills out paperwork from court	Adult with disabilities says what they need help with	Any adult can fill out Durable Power of Attorney paperwork. Adults with disabilities must understand forms they sign	Any adult can fill out an AHCD to state their wishes. Adults with disabilities must understand forms they sign
<i>How is it completed?</i>	Paperwork filed through court. Only the court can approve paperwork	Adult with disabilities picks family and friends to help them with decisions, and can write down who helps them on a Supported Decision Making Agreement	Must be signed by a Notary Public. Can also be completed by an attorney	Two witnesses sign or signed by a Notary Public
<i>Decisions covered:</i>	Judge decides which decisions you make. May be all decisions or only some decisions	Adult with disabilities says what they need help with	Adult decides which decisions you may make. May be all decisions or only some decisions	Medical decisions are decided ahead of time by the adult. You tell their choices to the doctor
<i>Will the adult with disabilities be protected?</i>	Court can end or change if adult with disabilities is not being protected	Family and friends work together. Can be ended at anytime	Can be ended at anytime	Can be ended at anytime
<i>Will paperwork be accepted by hospital/doctor?</i>	Yes	Hospitals will try to work with the adult with disabilities and their family and friends. May need added consent forms	Yes	Yes