ACD VS ACP

WHEN A PATIENT CAN SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES
When a Patient has capacity they can make an Advance Care Plan OR an Advance Care Directive.

WHEN A PATIENT CAN’T SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES
An Advance Care Plan can be made by an Enduring Guardian, Substitute Decision maker or an appropriately identified Person Responsible, when a patient can’t speak for themselves.

WHEN TO MAKE AN ACD
- Early in patient’s diagnosis (before crisis)
- Recurrent Hospitalisations
- Over 75 assessment

ADVANCE CARE DIRECTIVE (ACD)
Only completed by patient with capacity.
- Written ACDs: signed, preferably witnessed.
- Verbal ACDs: documented in medical notes*.

ADVANCE CARE PLAN (ACP)
Known intent – can be verbal or documented (only if no ACD is recorded).

ENDURING GUARDIAN VS POWER OF ATTORNEY
ENDURING POWER OF ATTORNEY
is a legal agreement that enables a person to appoint a trusted person - or people - to make financial and/or property decisions on their behalf.

ENDURING GUARDIAN
is a legally appointed person who makes lifestyle, health and medical decisions for you when you are not capable of doing this for yourself. Your Enduring Guardian may make decisions such as where you live, what services are provided to you at home and what medical treatment you receive.

WHERE CAN MY PATIENT STORE THEIR ACD
- Give a copy to your GP
- Put a copy on your fridge
- Upload a copy to MyHealthRecord.gov.au
- Give a copy to your substitute decision maker
- Give a copy to your Enduring Guardian

PATIENTS THAT MIGHT BENEFIT FROM AN ACD
- Neurodegenerative Disease
- Terminal
- Chronic Disease
- Dementia
- Aged

Additional Resources: Refer to NSW Health ACD Form and Information Booklet

* NSW Health Guidelines for Advance Care Directives, 2016