

## ADVANCE HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE REGISTRY

The Commonwealth of Virginia has a statewide Advance Health Care Directive Registry, which is administered by the Virginia Department of Health. Use this secure tool to store important documents that protect your legal rights and ensure your medical wishes are honored if you are incapacitated and unable to manage your own care. You can access it at:

<http://www.connectvirginia.org/adr/>

VDH Advance Health Care Directive Registry website explains that:

The VDH Registry is a free service available for all Virginia residents. To ensure your privacy, the registry requires that you type in a 12-digit PIN to access any documents uploaded to the site. If you choose to register your AD with the VDH Registry, you need to make sure that your providers, agent, and loved ones know your PIN so that they can get to your Advance Directive in the event of a crisis.

We strongly encourage you to consider using the VDH Registry in addition to giving copies to your providers. Although many health care providers use electronic recordkeeping these days, they may use different programs from one another. Because of this, just because one provider has a copy of your AD does not mean that another provider has it, too. The VDH Registry was created so there would be one central place that all providers could look to for copies of ADs.

ConnectVirginia HIE, Inc. is the Statewide Health Information Exchange (HIE) for the Commonwealth of Virginia. It provides a safe, confidential, electronic system to support the exchange of patient medical records among healthcare providers, both here in Virginia and beyond. ConnectVirginia HIE, Inc., a Virginia-based not-for-profit company, is led by a Board of Directors of health care professionals and executives from across the Commonwealth.

ConnectVirginia utilizes secure, electronic, internet-based technology to allow medical information to be exchanged by participating health care providers. As a result, providers will have more complete medical information to provide higher quality care for patients and will be able to more easily coordinate treatment with other health care providers.