

Vital Information Program

No one really likes to think about these things, and we all hope that we will never need this information, but the fact is there will come a time when it will come in very handy. The Oconto County Commission on Aging, Inc. provides this service to you free of charge.

The Vital Information Program (VIP) brings to the attention of emergency personnel (dispatchers, paramedics, law enforcement, first responders, emergency room staff) all of an individual's important medical information. Participants are asked to complete a medical profile that includes a list of medications being taken, allergies, medical conditions, physician's name, and names and numbers of family members or friends that are your emergency contacts.

This information needs to be updated, **at the minimum**, once a year. Your physician may change; your medications may change as well as your medical condition may change.

There is also a personal profile that includes information such as:

- ✓ Who has been designated to care for a dependent member of the household (child, adult with Alzheimer's, etc.) if the primary caregiver requires hospitalization
- ✓ Who will care for your pets; does the participant have glasses, a hearing aid or other adaptive aids that should be sent with him/her to the hospital.

This profile will also answer the question as to whether the participant has any advanced directive such as a living will or power of attorney for health care.

What is an advanced directive? It is a written document that gives instructions about your health care wishes. The State of Wisconsin recognizes the following forms of written advanced directives for health care:

Power of Attorney or Health Care: Document stating how you wish to be treated if you become incapacitated and names a person to make medical decisions for you. You may download this here:

<http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/forms/AdvDirectives/dph00085.pdf>

Declaration to Physicians (Living Will for Health Care): Document stating how you wish to be treated if you have a terminal condition or are in a persistent vegetative state. You may download this here:

<http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/forms/AdvDirectives/dph00060.pdf>

Power of Attorney for Finance and Property: You may download this here: <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/forms/AdvDirectives/dph00036.pdf>

Do Not Resuscitate Bracelet: A bracelet worn by someone who has a terminal condition and does not wish to be resuscitated in case of cardiopulmonary arrest.

How to sign up for the Vital Information Program

There are three (3) ways:

1. Print out the following information:

_____ Please call me to set up an appointment for me to enroll in the Vital Information Program.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Return this form to:

Oconto County Commission on Aging, Inc.
1210 Main Street ~ Oconto, WI 54153

Or you may email this information to us. Email: occa@centurytel.net

Or print out the following form with this information:

- List of current medications you are taking and their dosages
- List of allergies you have (if any)
- List of your current medical conditions
- Names and phone numbers of emergency contacts
- Advanced directive documents or information (if applicable)

This form goes on your refrigerator door where it can be easily found.

