

## Written Blog Assignment 1: Advance Directives

In Module 2, you learned how Mrs. Shulman carried what is called an advance directive in the event that she was unable to express her wishes in a life-or-death situation. Ethical issues in end-of-life situations like this one are consistently ranked as the most frequently occurring challenge by many healthcare professionals and their organizations, and this is where we begin our examination of complex topics next week. This advance directive assignment is designed to help you make a personal connection to the ethical and legal complexities involved in end-of-life decision-making in preparation for this work.

For this 2-part assignment you will complete an advance directive for you and for one family member or friend. You will find the workbook and supporting resources at the Speak Up website. Once completed, you will write a two-section blog post that addresses the questions below.

### Part 1:

Review the workbook and supporting resources at the Speak Up website and complete an advance directive for you and for one family member or friend. Write a two-part blog post that addresses the following questions:

### Part 2 Section 1:

What were your feelings when completing and then discussing the form?

How did your friend/family member react to the process?

What questions or comments did he or she have?

How did you respond to those comments?

Do you think this experience was typical of discussions about end-of-life issues? Why or why not?

### Part 2 Section 2:

What are the benefits and limitations of the form?

How understandable was the form to you and your family member or friend?

How effective would the form be in different situations and for different people?

Does the framework of the form promote or confine free expression of preferences?

Please Note: You are not required to submit or share the particular details of your advance directive or that of your friend or family member (unless you wish to and/or have the permission of your family member/friend to share their confidential

information). For this assignment, you are only asked to share your reflections on the process and experience of future healthcare planning.

The format of this assessment is as follows:

Use the workbook from the Speak Up website to assist you in developing an advance care director for both you and a family member or friend

Write a blog post sharing your reflections on the process and experience of future healthcare planning, using the questions provided as prompts

Submit a document with your blog URL to the Blog Post 1: Advance Directive Assignment submission folder. You will receive a mark via the submission folder and comments from your instructor/tutor directly on your blog. Consult the 'Course Work Submission and Deadline Policy' for important information about how to submit your assignment.

The word limit for this assignment is 750 words (see the 'Blog Assignment Word Count Policy' for more details). Writing assignment assessment criteria can be located in the blog rubric.

This assignment is worth 15% of your final grade.