

**[www.chcf.org](http://www.chcf.org)**

(California Healthcare Foundation)

Offers resources and news on issues affecting healthcare delivery and financing. Examines systemic and comprehensive approaches to caring for patients with chronic diseases.

**[www.caregiver.org](http://www.caregiver.org)**

(FCA: Family Caregiver Alliance)

Information, education and services for families caring for loved ones with chronic, disabling health conditions. Information is available in Spanish.

**[www.losangeles.networkofcare.org](http://www.losangeles.networkofcare.org)**

(Network of Care)

Part of a community based site by the Department of Aging to improve and better coordinate long-term care services locally. Site for the elderly, people with disabilities, as well as caregivers and service providers.

**[www.kidney.org](http://www.kidney.org)**

(National Kidney Foundation, Inc.)

Find CKD-ESRD information and educational resources for patients and professionals.

**[www.esrdnetwork18.org](http://www.esrdnetwork18.org)**

(Southern California Renal Disease Council, Inc.)

Find Advanced Healthcare Directive Act information and sample forms in English and Spanish.

**[www.practicalbioethics.org](http://www.practicalbioethics.org)**

(Center for Practical Bioethics)

Consumer education initiative that helps individuals and their families share end-of-life decisions through a workbook.



Southern California  
Renal Disease Council  
INCORPORATED

# Advance Directives & End-of-Life Care



## Online Resources

ESRD Network 18  
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[www.esrdnetwork18.org](http://www.esrdnetwork18.org)

According to a survey released by the California Healthcare Foundation (CHCF), California passed the nation's first living will law thirty (30) years ago, but 70% of residents have not put their medical care or End-of-Life (EOL) wishes in writing. In a culturally diverse state such as California, it is particularly important for health care providers to recognize that cultural differences exist surrounding end-of-life care and take steps to ensure they are communicating effectively with patients and family members.

Below is a list of resources that Network 18 finds to be patient-friendly and easy to understand. There are many other resources available from healthcare organizations and the Internet.

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## Websites

(California Coalition for Compassionate Care)  
Find Advance Healthcare Directives materials, community education, and resources for healthcare professionals. Forms are available in English, Spanish, Chinese and low literacy.

(Caring Connections)  
Provides free resources, materials and information to help people make decisions about Advance Directives, EOL care and services before a crisis. Has a program (LIVE) to empower consumers to take action in making informed decisions about EOL care.

(Aging with Dignity)  
Provides a popular document called "Five Wishes" - an easy to use legal document that lets the patient plan in advance for how he/she wants to be cared for in case of a serious illness.

Resources for people facing life limiting illnesses, their families, and their professional care givers. Access to the Missoula-Vitas Quality of Life Index (MVQOLI).

## Websites

[www.promotingexcellence.org](http://www.promotingexcellence.org)  
(Promoting Excellence in End-of-Life Care)  
Find assessment and educational tools to improve healthcare for chronic illness and EOL.

[www.growthhouse.org](http://www.growthhouse.org)  
(Growth House, Inc.)  
Offers a database of resources on EOL issues. On-line community for people interested in End-of-Life care.

[www.kidneyeol.org](http://www.kidneyeol.org)  
(KEOL: Kidney End-of-Life Coalition)  
Provides resources for dialysis professionals, healthcare providers, hospice organizations, patients, and families committed to helping patients with the final stages of growth. Assists providers in developing policies and procedures for advance care planning. Has information on Medicare coverage for hospice benefits for ESRD patients. Sample forms are available.

[www.abanet.org/aging/toolkit/home.html](http://www.abanet.org/aging/toolkit/home.html)  
(American Bar Association)  
Offers a Consumer's Tool Kit for health care advance planning.

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