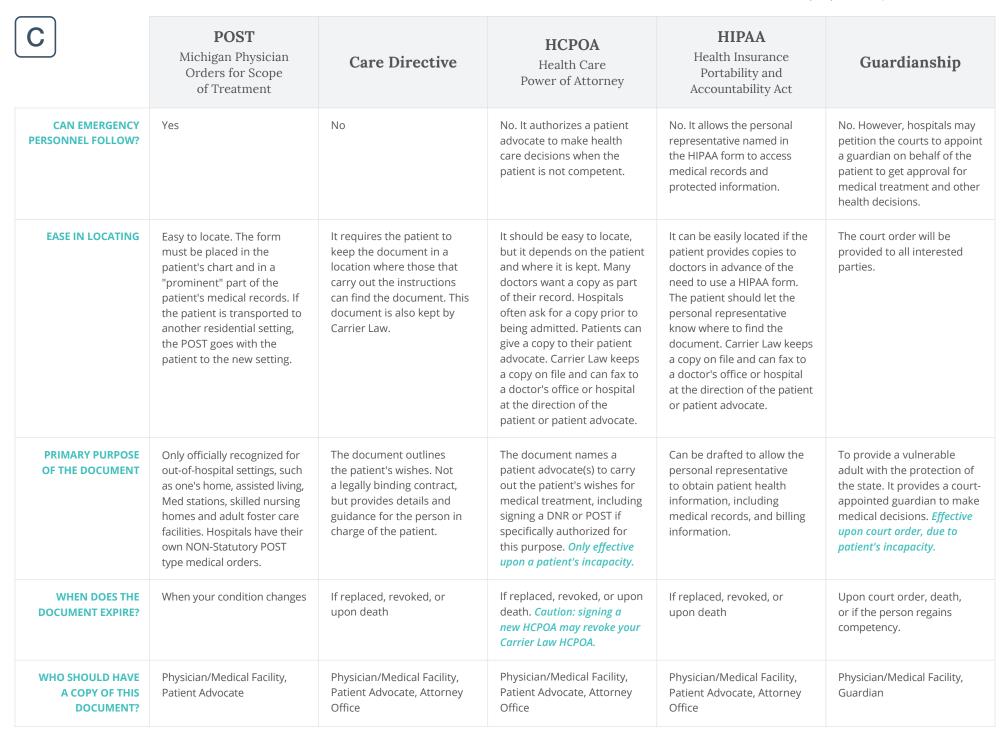


Health Care Documents

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	POST Michigan Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment	Care Directive	HCPOA Health Care Power of Attorney	HIPAA Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act	Guardianship
TYPE OF DOCUMENT	Medical order	Written document—but not legally binding like Health Care Power of Attorney documents.	Legal document	Legal document	Legal document—requires probate court order. Not needed if a valid, properly drafted HCPOA is in place.
WHO COMPLETES IT?	Health care professional along with the patient or patient advocate if the patient is not competent, or guardian.	Individual—with assistance of experienced Estate Planning Attorney	Individual—with assistance of experienced Estate Planning Attorney	Individual—with assistance of experienced Estate Planning Attorney	Appointed by probate court
WHO NEEDS ONE?	For adults with an advanced illness and death is foreseeable within one year of signing the document.	All competent adults.	All competent adults.	All competent adults.	Adult who is incapacitated/ incompetent and either does not have a patient advocate appointed in an HCPOA, or has insufficient powers listed in their HCPOA.
IS COMPLETION VOLUNTARY?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No—probate court decides if it is needed
APPOINTS AN AGENT?	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes—probate court appoints a guardian
WHEN IS THE DOCUMENT EFFECTIVE?	Effective when signed	Effective when signed	Effective when declared incompetent	Effective when signed	Effective upon court order, when declared incompetent
WHAT IS COMMUNICATED?	The form covers a limited number of key medical decisions. It requires a health care professional to explain the form to the patient and is generally more detailed than an HCPOA.	Individual, with assistance of experienced Estate Planning Attorney	Individual, with assistance of experienced Estate Planning Attorney	Individual, with assistance of experienced Estate Planning Attorney	Appointed by probate court

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