



Key Findings From THA's Texas Advance Directives Survey

July 2020

The Texas Hospital Association surveyed its member hospitals to better understand the frequency with which the dispute resolution process under the Texas Advance Directives Act is used. Section 166.046 of the TADA provides a process for health care providers and families to resolve disputes over medical interventions or proposed care plans in certain situations. In rare situations in which providers and families disagree, the “.046 process” allows an interdisciplinary committee of medical ethicists, physician specialists, nurses, clergy, community representatives and patient advocates to determine the medically appropriate path forward. The following is a summary of THA's survey results.

Of the 94 Texas hospitals surveyed, the “.046 process” was engaged four times during a two-year period (June 1, 2018 – May 31, 2020).

- Hospitals represented in response: 94
- Hospital beds represented in response: 3,946
- Number of times the “.046 process” was used for admissions during the time period beginning June 1, 2018 - May 31, 2020: 4
- Patients for whom the “.046 process” was initiated who passed away while continuing to receive medical interventions before or during the 10-day period: 2
- Cases stopped during the “.046 process”: 0
- Of the patients for whom the “.046 process” was initiated:
 - The number of times a transfer was not initiated: 1
 - The number of times transfer was successful: 0
 - The number of patients who continued to receive medical interventions beyond the 10-day period and ultimately passed away within the facility: 1

For questions or additional information please contact:

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