



healthcurrent

September 9, 2021

You recently received a letter from the Secretary of State's office stating that a change is occurring and that the present Healthcare Directive Registry is being moved to Health Current. We recognize that this was an unexpected change for many and wanted to share some additional information with you.

- Health Current is a **nonprofit organization** that has been working with Arizona healthcare providers since 2007. The 2019 legislation change that is guiding the transition of the registry stated in the statute that the registry would transfer to a health information exchange (HIE). An HIE was chosen due to the recognition that sensitive health information was already being managed by such an entity. Health Current is Arizona's HIE that helps partners transform care by bringing together communities and information across Arizona. Health Current's goal is to help providers use information technology to improve people's lives.
- The Arizona legislative statutes are clear as to how these data can be used. The documents and personal information are only available to those who have submitted the documents, those who are the principal named in the document and those who are licensed as healthcare providers for the purpose of providing healthcare to the individual named in the advance directive document.
- There is no cost to Arizonans to create an account and register their advance directive documents.
- One of the changes covered under and governing the new Arizona Healthcare Directives Registry (AzHDR), is that the registry will allow healthcare providers to view any registered advance directive document without needing the unique username and password of the patient. This will ensure that medical providers can have access to these documents when a crisis arises, even if the patient cannot provide their credentials.
- If you would like to view the Arizona statutes that guide the AzHDR, you can view them online at Arizona Revised Statutes here: azleg.gov. The relative statutes are A.R.S. § 36-3291- A.R.S. § 36-3297.

I want my documents transferred to the new Arizona Healthcare Directives Registry (AzHDR). What do I do?

- If you want your current advance directive documents registered with the state to be transferred to the new AzHDR, you do not need to do anything; the documents will be automatically transferred, and you will be sent instructions from Health Current on how to set up your new account and access your directives.
- Health Current will begin sending out these letters outlining the next steps for setting up your account in mid-October.
- Until the AzHDR is live, the Secretary of State Registry will still be available to you.

I do not want my documents transferred to the new Arizona Healthcare Directive Registry (AzHDR). What do I do now?

- If you do not want to have your advance directives transferred to the new Arizona Healthcare Directive Registry, you simply complete and return the opt-out form you received with your letter and mail it back to Secretary of State's office at the following address.

Advance Directive Registry
Arizona Secretary of State
1700 W. Washington St., 7th Fl.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

- If you opt-out, your advance directive document(s) will remain valid; they will simply not be transferred to the new AzHDR system. Please be aware that this means that once the new AzHDR is live, your advance directives will also no longer be viewable or accessible in the Secretary of State Registry. In addition, healthcare providers will not be able to view your directive(s), so we strongly recommended that you provide copies of your directive(s) to your healthcare providers, family members, designated health care powers of attorney or other interested parties directly.

I want to redo my advance directives. What do I do?

- It is important to review your advance directives regularly to make sure they are current and reflect your healthcare preferences, goals, and situation.
- Health Current's website (healthcurrent.org/azhdr) features a wealth of information and resources to help answer any questions you may have about advance directives. Loads of videos and guides are available to assist with advance care planning.
- If you are making changes, you will want to complete new documents and follow the guidelines for completing the form(s) and witness or notary requirements.
- Once your new account is set up within the AzHDR, you can mail your updated form(s) to the AzHDR or upload them through your account. If you have questions, please contact Health Current via email at azhdr@healthcurrent.org.
- Please be advised that you will only want to mail the copies of any documents (not the originals), and you will also want to share updated versions with your healthcare providers, family members, designated health care powers of attorney or other interested parties. Only the newest document(s) will show as active in the AzHDR.