

# Wills

An information guide



# Wills

## Introduction

This leaflet is to guide for patients who wish to make a will whilst an inpatient. Please note that this does not replace formal legal advice.

## Patient's request to make a will

If you request to make a will whilst an in-patient you will be advised to contact a solicitor.

This is so they can complete any necessary capacity assessment as part of their consultation with you.

Medical staff will **not be** able to assess capacity for the purpose of a will.

Citizens Advice will be able to provide you with lists of solicitors if you do not already have one, you can call them on **0800 144 8848**.

## Validity

For a will to be legally valid, the person making it must:

- Be 18 years or older.
- Make it voluntarily with no undue influence or pressure.
- Be of sound mind.
- Make it in writing (hand or type written).
- Sign it in the presence of two witnesses who are both over 18 years old or, if they are unable to sign themselves, direct an individual to sign on their behalf and in their presence.
- Have it signed by the two witnesses, in the person's presence.

## Witnessing wills

Witnesses can be any adult over the age of 18 but **must not** be beneficiaries under the will.

In certain circumstances e.g. when there are visiting restrictions during a pandemic or other infection control concerns, then it may not be possible for somebody to attend hospital to witness the signing of a will. In these circumstances ward staff will contact the Trust Legal Team to explore further options on your behalf.

**Members of staff are unfortunately unable to witness the signing of wills.**

**If English is not your first language and you need help, please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service**

Jeśli angielski nie jest twoim pierwszym językiem i potrzebujesz pomocy, skontaktuj się z działem tłumaczeń ustnych i pisemnych

اگر انگریزی آپ کی پہلی زبان نہیں ہے اور آپ کو مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو ، براہ کرم ترجمانی اور ترجمہ خدمت سے رابطہ کریں

Dacă engleza nu este prima ta limbă și ai nevoie de ajutor, te rugăm să contactezi Serviciul de interpretare și traducere

ইংরাজী যদি আপনার প্রথম ভাষা না হয় এবং আপনার সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয় তবে অনুগ্রহ করে দোভাষী এবং অনুবাদ পরিষেবাটিতে যোগাযোগ করুন

إذا لم تكن الإنجليزية هي لغتك الأولى وتحتاج إلى مساعدة ، فيرجى الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الشفوية والتحريرية

☎ : 0161 627 8770

@ : interpretation@pat.nhs.uk

To improve our care environment for Patients, Visitors and Staff, **Northern Care Alliance NHS Group** is Smoke Free including buildings, grounds & car parks.

For advice on stopping smoking contact the Specialist Stop Smoking Service on 01706 517 522

**For general enquiries please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 0161 604 5897**

**For enquiries regarding clinic appointments, clinical care and treatment please contact 0161 624 0420 and the Switchboard Operator will put you through to the correct department / service**

The Northern Care Alliance NHS Group (NCA) is one of the largest NHS organisations in the country, employing 17,000 staff and providing a range of hospital and community healthcare services to around 1 million people across Salford, Oldham, Bury, Rochdale and surrounding areas. Our Care Organisations are responsible for providing our services, delivering safe, high quality and reliable care to the local communities they serve.

The NCA brings together Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust and the hospitals and community services of The Royal Oldham Hospital, Fairfield General Hospital in Bury, and Rochdale Infirmary (currently part of The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust).

 [www.facebook.com/NorthernCareAllianceNHSGroup](https://www.facebook.com/NorthernCareAllianceNHSGroup)

 [www.linkedin.com/company/northern-care-alliance-nhs-group](https://www.linkedin.com/company/northern-care-alliance-nhs-group)

 Northern Care Alliance NHS Group (NCA) @NCAlliance\_NHS

**Date of publication: July 2021**

**Date of review: July 2021**

**Date of next review: July 2023**

**Ref: PI(C)1115**

**© The Northern Care Alliance NHS Group**

[www.pat.nhs.uk](https://www.pat.nhs.uk)

[www.northerncarealliance.nhs.uk](https://www.northerncarealliance.nhs.uk)

