

Dare we say Spring is here??

Keeping our fingers crossed, we have made it past the majority of the flu season and hoping the warmer weather will soon allow us to throw open the windows and enjoy the fresh air!



Quality Improvement

In December, 2009 we shared with you some of the quality improvement activities we had identified. Each month we will report our progress on one more of these activities. This month we want to highlight **Advance Directives**. You may know these documents as either a HealthCare Power of Attorney or Living Will. These are legal documents that allow an individual to convey their decisions about end of life care ahead of time.

A **Living Will** tells how an individual feels about care intended to sustain life. Included in the document can be decisions on: use of dialysis and breathing machines, decisions on resuscitation, tube feeding, and organ/tissue donation.

A **Healthcare Power of Attorney** document includes all of the above information but also allows you to name a healthcare proxy; someone you trust to make decisions for you that you would make if you are unable to do so.

The key to Advanced Directives are that they are only used in the event that an individual is not competent to make their own decisions at the time of need.

At Valley VNA, 98.2% of our residents have an Advanced Directives. Our goal is 100%! It is never too late to have an Advanced Directive and they can change over time as your decisions/thoughts change. If you would like more information, please let us know!

Celebrating our Employees!

Valley VNA is successful primarily due to the hard work and commitment of our employees! Those celebrating anniversaries in April are:

1 Year - Heather Doucette & Abby Leibold

2 Years - Susan Heil & Krista Henke

3 Years - Betty Koepke

8 Years - Stacy Hole

Special thanks to all of them for their hard work and dedication!!