**What Should I Know About You**

**and Your Care Wishes?**

As your physician it’s important that I understand what’s important to you in relation to the care you want in the event that you are nearing the end of your life.

Many people don’t want to think about end-of-life care until it is too late to talk about what they do or don’t want. In order for me to help you achieve your goals, I need to know what’s most important to you.

For example:

* If a time comes when you can’t make your own health care decisions, which person would you want me to talk to about your care?
* Are there specific kinds of medical treatment you do or don’t want?
* What is most important to you in terms of maintaining your comfort?
* Do you want to be cared for in your home, the home of a family member, or somewhere else?
* What are your moral or spiritual beliefs in relation to different types of medical care?
* Do you want me to discuss hospice with you when I think cure is no longer possible?

Answering these and other important questions in a doctor’s office doesn’t give you time to think about what you’d want and have your questions answered. That’s why I’ve given you a copy of *Five Wishes.*

Please review the document and, if you are comfortable doing so, complete it before your next appointment. Discuss your answers with your family members, make copies and bring one with you to your next appointment with me.

I believe **every adult, no matter their age or health status,** should complete an advance directive and *Five Wishes* is the one I recommend.

Thank you for entrusting your care to me.