

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Chapter 1: Rationale for Institutional Decisionmaking Protocols	3
Social and Historical Context of Decisionmaking Protocols	4
Objectives of Decisionmaking Protocols	6
Objectives Related to Clinical Decisions	6
Objectives Related to Institutional Responsibilities	8
Conclusion	10
Chapter 2: Prevalence of Institutional Protocols: Current Status and Future Prospects.. . . .	13
Current Situation	13
In Hospitals	13
In Nursing Homes and Other Health Care Institutions	14
In Emergency Medical Services	15
Incentives for Protocol Development	15
Accreditation Standards	15
Other Incentives in the Private Sector,	16
Incentives and Obligations in the public sector	17
Legal Considerations	18
Barriers to Protocol Development and Implementation	20
Barriers Within Health Care Institutions	20
Public Policy Barriers.	22
Barriers Within Patient-Provider Encounters	23
Essential Steps in Protocol Development	24
Recognition of Need.. . . .	24
Formation of a Drafting Committee	24
Protocol Drafting	25
Staff Education and Commitment	26
Congressional Options.	26
Appendix A: Content and Format of Decisionmaking Protocols	33
General Comments.	33
Paradigms of Decisionmaking Protocols	34
Specific Provisions	37
Appendix B: Sample Decisionmaking Protocols	45
Appendix C: List of Reviewers	75
Appendix D: Glossary of Acronyms and Terms	76
Appendix E: References	77

Box

<i>Box</i>	<i>Page</i>
A. Profiles of Individuals Facing Decisions About Life-Sustaining Treatments	7

Figures

<i>Figure</i>	<i>Page</i>
1. Public Interests and Institutional Responsibilities	8
2. Adoption of Decisionmaking Protocols in Minnesota Hospitals	14