

FILE OF LIFE

More than 90% of medical emergency calls are treated without knowledge of the patients' medical history. The File of Life card enables Fire/Police/EMS personnel to obtain a quick and accurate medical history when a patient is unable to offer one. The card also eliminates the risk of a patient forgetting to mention something important.

Data show that many older people generally take multiple medications and typically have existing medical conditions. Data also show that during medical emergencies, older victims are often confused and in some cases, completely unable to communicate. The type of information needed by emergency responders is often unavailable in these situations. When medications and/or medical conditions are unknown, it is extremely difficult to treat an older victim in an emergency.

One inexpensive solution is the distribution of the "File of Life", a refrigerator magnet folder containing vital medical information about the elderly resident. A decal affixed to the main entry door alerts law enforcement and medical personnel to the existence of a "File of Life" during a medical emergency, allowing information on medications and medical conditions to be accessed immediately by emergency responders.

If you would like a free "File of Life" contact Senior LinkAge® at 1-800-333-2433 or gail@cmcoa.org.