

# HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE

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I, \_\_\_\_\_, having the capacity to make health care decisions, willfully, and voluntarily make known my desire that my dying shall not be artificially prolonged under the circumstances set forth below, and do hereby declare that:

1. (a) If at any time I should be diagnosed in writing to be in a terminal condition by the attending physician, or in a permanent unconscious condition by two physicians, and where the application of life-sustaining treatment would serve only to artificially prolong the process of my dying, I direct that such treatment be withheld or withdrawn, and that I be permitted to die naturally. I understand by using this form that a terminal condition means an incurable and irreversible condition caused by injury, disease, or illness, that would within reasonable medical judgment cause death within a reasonable period of time in accordance with accepted medical standards, and where the application of life-sustaining treatment would serve only to prolong the process of dying. I further understand in using this form that a permanent unconscious condition means an incurable and irreversible condition in which I am medically assessed within reasonable medical judgment as having no reasonable probability of recovery from an irreversible coma or a persistent vegetative state.

(b) In the absence of my ability to give directions regarding the use of such life-sustaining treatment, it is my intention that this directive shall be honored by my family and physician(s) as the final expression of my legal right to refuse medical or surgical treatment and I accept the consequences of such refusal. If another person is appointed to make these decisions for me, whether through a durable power of attorney or otherwise, I request that the person be guided by this directive and any other clear expression of my desires.

(c) If I am diagnosed to be in a terminal condition or in a permanent unconscious condition (initial options selected):

- i) **I DO** want to have artificially provided hydration. \_\_\_\_\_  
**I DO NOT** want to have artificially provided hydration. \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) **I DO** want to have artificially provided nutrition. \_\_\_\_\_  
**I DO NOT** want to have artificially provided nutrition. \_\_\_\_\_
- iii) **I DO** wish to receive antibiotic therapy. \_\_\_\_\_  
**I DO NOT** wish to receive antibiotic therapy. \_\_\_\_\_

- iv) Under all circumstances, I want to receive medication to relieve pain so that I may remain comfortable, even if an unintended result of this medication might be to hasten my death.
- v) Regardless of any other choices I have made, I do want to receive comfort measures -- that is, I want to receive medical care and treatment that will keep me as comfortable as possible

(d) If I have been diagnosed as pregnant and that diagnosis is known to my physician, this directive shall have no force or effect during the course of my pregnancy.

(e) I understand the full import of this directive and I am emotionally and mentally capable to make the health care decisions contained in this directive.

(f) I understand that before I sign this directive, I can add to or delete from or otherwise change the wording of this directive and that I may add to or delete from this directive at any time and that any changes shall be consistent with Washington state law or federal constitutional law to be legally valid.

(g) It is my wish that every part of this directive be fully implemented. If for any reason any part is held invalid it is my wish that the remainder of my directive be implemented.

2. Prior to withholding or withdrawing life-sustaining treatment, the diagnosis of a terminal condition by the attending physician or the diagnosis of a permanent unconscious state by two physicians shall be entered in writing, and made a permanent part of my medical records.

DATED the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_,  
 residing at \_\_\_\_\_,  
 \_\_\_\_\_ County, Washington

The declarer has been personally known to me and I believe her to be capable of making health care decisions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Witness