

ADVANCE CARE PLANNING SERVING AS AGENT

As an agent, you are responsible to understand the beliefs and concerns about medical treatment of the person for whom you are making advance care planning decisions. You must be willing to make decisions that are consistent with his/her wishes, and communicate those wishes to the health care team.

In order to better understand those wishes, try to put yourself in the place of the person for whom you are making advance care planning decisions. Mark the extent to which you believe the person would agree or disagree with each statement. Remember, you are to answer each statement as if you were the health care agent. Compare your answers to theirs.

Physical Independence

1. He/she would not want to be dependent indefinitely on medical machines to be kept alive such as a breathing machine.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
2. He/she would want to be able to die at home, if possible, rather than in a hospital or nursing home.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree

Decision-Making

3. He/she would want to remain as involved as possible in health care decisions about his/her care in consultation with the physician and other healthcare providers.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
4. He/she would want basic information provided regarding the disease process, likely outcome, benefits, risks, reasonable alternative treatments, and the likely effect of no treatment.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
5. He/she would want to know if the treatment being considered is likely to achieve the agreed upon goals without undue burden.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree

6. He/she believes he/she has the right to refuse medical treatment even if the refusal may unintentionally shorten his/her life.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
7. He/she would want full disclosure of his/her diagnosis, even if it means there is little chance for recovery or no possibility of recovery.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree

Social/Relational Activities

8. He/she would want to be able to engage in social activities such as visiting others, attending church or synagogue, and shopping.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
9. It is important to him/her to be able to recognize family members throughout his/her healthcare experience.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
10. He/she would want to be able to communicate and understand others.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
11. He/she believes cost should be considered in the type of treatment he/she receives.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree

Aggressiveness of Medical Treatment

12. He/she would not want feeding tubes, including stomach tubes, nasogastric tubes, which are placed down the nose, or intravenous feedings, except to increase his/her comfort or reduce pain.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
13. He/she would rather err on the side of over-medication rather than under-medication for pain, even if taking such may result in his/her death.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
14. He/she would want to be an organ and tissue donor.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree

15. He/she would like all treatments possible to keep him/her alive, even if he/she will never get better.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
16. He/she would not want any attempt at resuscitation or advanced life support. This includes machines to help breathing or medications to maintain the heart and blood pressure.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
17. He/she would want the use of any medical treatments possible if these would help him/her to return to the quality of life he/she has today.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree
18. He/she would like to have an autopsy done so that more can be learned about his/her illness.
 Strongly Agree Agree Not Sure Disagree Strongly Disagree

Adapted from My Voice-My Choice