

Personal Preferences Guide

To assist you in making your preferences clear to your healthcare agent and/or provider, consider responding to the questions below. Use the questions as a guide to focus your thoughts on your preferences. You should discuss these preferences with your healthcare agent and/or provider.

PERSONAL MEDICAL PREFERENCES

If I am incapable of making an informed decision regarding my healthcare, I would direct my healthcare agent and/or provider to follow my instructions as set forth below.

1. If my death from a terminal condition is imminent and even if life-sustaining procedures are used and there is no reasonable expectation of my recovery:

_____ I direct that my life not be extended by life-sustaining procedures, including the administration of nutrition and hydration artificially.

_____ I direct that my life not be extended by life-sustaining procedures, except that if I am unable to take food by mouth, I wish to receive nutrition and hydration artificially.

2. If I am in a persistent vegetative state, that is, if I am not conscious and am not aware of my environment nor able to interact with others and there is no reasonable expectation of my recovery:

_____ I direct that my life not be extended by life-sustaining procedures, including the administration of nutrition and hydration artificially.

_____ I direct that my life not be extended by life-sustaining procedures, except that if I am unable to take food by mouth, I wish to receive nutrition and hydration artificially.

Other thoughts of Personal Medical Preferences:

PERSONAL PRIORITIES & SPIRITUAL VALUES IMPORTANT TO MEDICAL DECISIONS

People have personal priorities and spiritual beliefs that affect their medical decisions. This is especially true at the end of life with regard to the use of life-sustaining treatments. To make your values and beliefs more clear, consider the questions below.

Personal Priorities/Concerns

1. What are your fears regarding the end of life?
2. Would you want to be sedated if it were necessary to control your pain, even if it makes you drowsy or puts you to sleep much of the time?
3. Would you want to have a hospice team or other palliative care (i.e., comfort care) available to you?

Spiritual/Religious Matters of Importance To You

1. What is important for others to know about the spiritual or religious part of your life?
2. What do you need for comfort and support as you journey near death? For example, to pray with a member of the clergy? To have others pray for you? To be read to from spiritual or religious texts? To have music playing in your room? To be held?

Other thoughts of Personal Priorities and Spiritual Preferences:
