

Advance Planning Resources Update

SELECTED ADVANCE DIRECTIVE FORMS

Five Wishes Advance Directive. Published by Aging with Dignity. This nationally used and very popular advance directive focuses on ways of talking about health care wishes and needs. Can be purchased and downloaded from their web site: www.agingwithdignity.org. Also available by mail order from P.O. Box 11180, Tallahassee, FL 32302-3180.

Caring Connections is a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO). It provides free downloadable state advance directive forms and directions at: <http://www.caringinfo.org/AdvanceDirectives>

A Guide to Living Wills and Health Care Proxies, by Harvard Medical School. This guide and form provides a more medically-oriented advance directive addressing six illness scenarios. For each, you consider possible medical interventions and goals of care. It also includes a proxy designation form. Can be purchased and downloaded from their web site: http://www.health.harvard.edu/special_health_reports/A_Guide_to_Living_Wills_and_Health_Care_Proxies.htm.

Compassion and Choices (formerly the Hemlock Society) Living Will and Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care, available at: <http://www.compassionandchoices.org/ad/>.

Ethical Wills: Putting Your Values on Paper, by Barry K. Baines (Perseus Publishing, 2001). This is a guide to the process of writing and sharing an ethical will, a document designed to preserve a lasting legacy of your most cherished personal values.

The Halachic Living Will, a directive that comports with orthodox Jewish law and custom, Agudath Israel of America, 84 William Street, New York, N.Y. 10038 (Tel. 212-797-9000).

National Right to Life "Will to Live" available at: <http://www.nrlc.org/euthanasia/willtolive/StatesList.html> .

Jehovah's Witness' health care advance planning information available at: <http://www.jw-media.org/beliefs/medical.htm> or <http://www.jw-media.org/medical/index.htm>

WORK BOOK RESOURCES TO ASSIST ADVANCE PLANNING

Consumer's Tool Kit for Health Care Advance Planning, by the ABA Commission on Law and Aging is available for free download at: <http://www.abanet.org/aging>.

Caring Conversations Workbook, published by the Center for Practical Bioethics, is both a workbook and advance directive. It can be downloaded for free from their web

site: <http://www.practicalbioethics.org>.

Making Decisions for Someone Else: A Handbook for Marylanders, ABA Commission on Law and Aging, published in collaboration with the Maryland Office of the Attorney General (2006). Though parts are specific to Maryland, the core of the handbook applies to anyone in the role of health care proxy for another. Available at: <http://www.oag.state.md.us/Healthpol/proxyGuide.htm>.

GENERAL END-OF-LIFE CARE RESOURCES

ABA LawInfo.org is a consumer information web site covering multiple topics of interest to individuals and families, including estate and health care advance planning, at: <http://www.abalawinfo.org/fam1.html> .

Handbook for Mortals: Guidance for People Facing Serious Illness, by Joanne Lynn, MD, and Joan Harrold, MD (NY: Oxford University Press, 1999). A comprehensive and readable 242-page guide to dealing with serious, eventually fatal illness.

Hard Choices for Loving People: CPR, Artificial Feeding, Comfort Measures Only and the Elderly Patient, by Hank Dunn . A&A Publishers, Inc. P.O. Box 1098, Herndon, VA 20172-1098 (Tel. 703-707-0169). Web site: www.hardchoices.com. A concise and helpful 48-page booklet on end-of-life decisions concerning resuscitation, food and fluids, hospitalization, and cure versus comfort care.

Caring Connections – This program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization is a national consumer and community engagement initiative to improve care at the end of life, supported by a grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. They provide several consumer resources, including state-specific advance directive forms, on their web page at: www.caringinfo.org .

The Center for Practical Bioethics, Kansas City, Missouri. Formerly called the Midwest Bioethics Center, this non-profit ethics resource center dedicated to a health care delivery system anchored in respect for patients and their families and guided by ethical discourse. Web page: <http://www.practicalbioethics.org>.