

# CALIFORNIA

## ADVANCE HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE

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### Explanation

You have the right to give instructions about your own health care. You also have the right to name someone else to make health care decisions for you. This form lets you do either or both of these things. It also lets you express your wishes regarding donation of organs and the designation of your primary physician. If you use this form, you may complete or modify all or any part of it. You are free to use a different form.

Part 1 of this form is a power of attorney for health care. Part 1 lets you name another individual as agent to make health care decisions for you if you become incapable of making your own decisions or if you want someone else to make those decisions for you now even though you are still capable. You may name an alternate agent to act for you if your first choice is not willing, able, or reasonably available to make decisions for you. (Your agent may not be an operator or employee of a community care facility or a residential care facility where you are receiving care, or an employee of the health care institution where you are receiving care, unless your agent is related to you, is your registered domestic partner, or is a co-worker. Your supervising health care provider can never act as your agent.)

Unless the form you sign limits the authority of your agent, your agent may make all health care decisions for you. This form has a place for you to limit the authority of your agent. You need not limit the authority of your agent if you wish to rely on your agent for all health care decisions that may have to be made. If you choose not to limit the authority of your agent, your agent will have the right to:

- (a) Consent or refuse consent to any care, treatment, service, or procedure to maintain, diagnose, or otherwise affect a physical or mental condition;
- (b) Select or discharge health care providers and institutions;
- (c) Approve or disapprove diagnostic tests, surgical procedures and programs of medication; and
- (d) Direct the provision, withholding, or withdrawal of artificial nutrition and hydration and all other forms of health care, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation;
- (e) Make anatomical gifts, authorize an autopsy, and direct the disposition of your remains.

Part 2 of this form lets you give specific instructions about any aspect of your health care, whether or not you appoint an agent. Choices are provided for you to express your wishes regarding the provision, withholding, or withdrawal of treatment to keep you alive, as well as the provision of pain relief. Space is provided for you to add to the choices you have made or for you to write out any additional wishes. If you are satisfied to allow your agent to determine what is best for you in making end-of-life decisions, you need not fill out part 2 of this form.

Part 3 of this form lets you express an intention to donate your bodily organs and tissues following your death.

Part 4 of this form lets you designate a physician to have primary responsibility for your health care.

After completing this form, sign and date the form at the end. The form must be signed by two qualified witnesses or acknowledged before a notary public. Give a copy of the signed and completed form to your physician, to any other health care providers you may have, to any health care institution at which you are receiving care, and to any health-care agents you have named. You should talk to the person you have named as agent to make sure that he or she understands your wishes and is willing to take the responsibility.

You have the right to revoke this advance health care directive or replace this form at any time.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**PART 1**  
**POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR HEALTH CARE**

**PRINT THE  
 NAME, HOME  
 ADDRESS AND  
 HOME AND  
 WORK  
 TELEPHONE  
 NUMBERS OF  
 YOUR PRIMARY  
 AGENT**

(1) **DESIGNATION OF AGENT:** I designate the following individual as my agent to make health care decisions for me:

\_\_\_\_\_

(Name of individual you choose as agent)

\_\_\_\_\_

(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

\_\_\_\_\_

(home phone) (work phone)

**PRINT THE  
 NAME, HOME  
 ADDRESS AND  
 HOME AND  
 WORK  
 TELEPHONE  
 NUMBERS OF  
 YOUR FIRST  
 ALTERNATE  
 AGENT**

OPTIONAL: If I revoke my agent's authority or if my agent is not willing, able, or reasonably available to make a health-care decision for me, I designate as my first alternate agent:

\_\_\_\_\_

(Name of individual you choose as first alternate agent)

\_\_\_\_\_

(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

\_\_\_\_\_

(home phone) (work phone)

**PRINT THE  
 NAME, HOME  
 ADDRESS AND  
 HOME AND  
 WORK  
 TELEPHONE  
 NUMBERS OF  
 YOUR SECOND  
 ALTERNATE  
 AGENT**

OPTIONAL: If I revoke the authority of my agent and first alternate agent or if neither is willing, able, or reasonably available to make a health care decision for me, I designate as my second alternate agent:

\_\_\_\_\_

(Name of individual you choose as second alternate agent)

\_\_\_\_\_

(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

\_\_\_\_\_

(home phone) (work phone)

**ADD PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS ONLY IF YOU WANT TO LIMIT THE POWER OF YOUR AGENT**

(2) **AGENT’S AUTHORITY:** My agent is authorized to make all health care decisions for me, including decisions to provide, withhold, or withdraw artificial nutrition and hydration, and all other forms of health care to keep me alive, **except** as I state here:

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(Add additional sheets if needed.)

**INITIAL THE BOX IF YOU WISH YOUR AGENT’S AUTHORITY TO BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

(3) **WHEN AGENT’S AUTHORITY BECOMES EFFECTIVE:** My agent’s authority becomes effective when my primary physician determines that I am unable to make my own health care decisions unless I mark the following box. If I mark this box [  ], my agent’s authority to make health care decisions for me takes effect immediately.

(4) **AGENT’S OBLIGATION:** My agent shall make health care decisions for me in accordance with this power of attorney for health care, any instructions I give in Part 2 of this form, and my other wishes to the extent known to my agent. To the extent my wishes are unknown, my agent shall make health care decisions for me in accordance with what my agent determines to be in my best interest. In determining my best interest, my agent shall consider my personal values to the extent known to my agent.

**CROSS OUT AND INITIAL ANY STATEMENTS IN PARAGRAPHS 4 5, OR 6 THAT DO NOT REFLECT YOUR WISHES**

(5) **AGENT’S POSTDEATH AUTHORITY:** My agent is authorized to make anatomical gifts, authorize an autopsy, and direct disposition of my remains, except as I state here or in Part 3 of this form:

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(6) **NOMINATION OF CONSERVATOR:** If a conservator of my person needs to be appointed for me by a court, I nominate the agent designated in this form. If that agent is not willing, able, or reasonably available to act as conservator, I nominate the alternate agents whom I have named, in the order designated.

## PART 2

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR HEALTH CARE

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If you fill out this part of the form, you may strike any wording you do not want.

**INITIAL THE  
PARAGRAPH  
THAT BEST  
REFLECTS  
YOUR WISHES  
REGARDING  
LIFE-SUPPORT  
MEASURES**

(7) **END-OF-LIFE DECISIONS:** I direct that my health care providers and others involved in my care provide, withhold, or withdraw treatment in accordance with the choice I have marked below: **(Initial only one box)**

(a) **Choice NOT To Prolong Life**

I do not want my life to be prolonged if (1) I have an incurable and irreversible condition that will result in my death within a relatively short time, (2) I become unconscious and, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty, I will not regain consciousness, or (3) the likely risks and burdens of treatment would outweigh the expected benefits, **OR**

(b) **Choice To Prolong Life**

I want my life to be prolonged as long as possible within the limits of generally accepted health care standards.

(8) **RELIEF FROM PAIN:** Except as I state in the following space, I direct that treatment for alleviation of pain or discomfort should be provided at all times even if it hastens my death:

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(9) **OTHER WISHES:** (If you do not agree with any of the optional choices above and wish to write your own, or if you wish to add to the instructions you have given above, you may do so here.) I direct that:

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(Add additional sheets if needed.)

**ADDITIONAL  
INSTRUCTIONS  
(IF ANY)**

**ORGAN  
DONATION**

**PART 3  
DONATION OF ORGANS AT DEATH  
(OPTIONAL)**

(10) Upon my death: (mark applicable box)

(a) I give any needed organs, tissues, or parts,

**OR**

(b) I give the following organs, tissues, or parts only

(c) My gift is for the following purposes:  
(strike any of the following you do not want)

- (1) Transplant
- (2) Therapy
- (3) Research
- (4) Education

**PART 4  
PRIMARY PHYSICIAN  
(OPTIONAL)**

(11) I designate the following physician as my primary physician:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name of physician)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(phone)

OPTIONAL: If the physician I have designated above is not willing, able, or reasonably available to act as my primary physician, I designate the following physician as my primary physician:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name of physician)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(address) (city) (state) (zip code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(phone)

**PRINT THE  
NAME, ADDRESS  
AND TELEPHONE  
NUMBER OF  
YOUR PRIMARY  
PHYSICIAN**

**PRINT THE  
NAME, ADDRESS  
AND TELEPHONE  
NUMBER OF  
YOUR  
ALTERNATE  
PRIMARY  
PHYSICIAN**

(12) **EFFECT OF COPY:** A copy of this form has the same effect as the original.

(13) **SIGNATURE:** Sign and date the form here:

_____	_____
(date)	(sign your name)
_____	_____
(address)	(print your name)
_____	_____
(city)	(state)

(14) **WITNESSES:** This advance health care directive will not be valid for making health care decisions unless it is either:

- (1) signed by two (2) qualified adult witnesses who are personally known to you and who are present when you sign or acknowledge your signature; or
- (2) acknowledged before a notary public.

### ALTERNATIVE No. 1

#### STATEMENT OF WITNESSES

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of California (1) that the individual who signed or acknowledged this advance health care directive is personally known to me, or that the individual's identity was proven to me by convincing evidence, (2) that the individual signed or acknowledged this advance directive in my presence, (3) that the individual appears to be of sound mind and under no duress, fraud or undue influence, (4) that I am not a person appointed as an agent by this advance directive, and (5) that I am not the individual's health care provider, an employee of the individuals's health care provider, the operator of a community care facility, an employee of an operator of a community care facility, the operator of a residential care facility for the elderly, nor an employee of an operator of a residential care facility for the elderly.

First Witness:

_____	_____
(date)	(signature of witness)
_____	_____
(address)	(printed name of witness)
_____	_____
(city)	(state)

**SIGN AND DATE THE DOCUMENT**

**PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS**

**WITNESSING PROCEDURE**

**BOTH OF YOUR WITNESSES MUST AGREE WITH THIS STATEMENT**

**HAVE YOUR WITNESSES SIGN AND DATE THE DOCUMENT AND THEN PRINT THEIR NAME AND ADDRESS**

Second Witness:

_____	_____
(date)	(signature of witness)
_____	_____
(address)	(printed name of witness)
_____	_____
(city)	(state)

**ADDITIONAL WITNESS STATEMENT**

I further declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of California that I am not related to the individual executing this advance health care directive by blood, marriage, or adoption, and, to the best of my knowledge, I am not entitled to any part of the individual's estate upon his or her death under a will now existing or by operation of law.

_____	_____
(date)	(signature of witness)
_____	_____
(address)	(printed name of witness)
_____	_____
(city)	(state)

**ALTERNATIVE No. 2  
NOTARY PUBLIC**

State of California )  
 ) SS.  
County of \_\_\_\_\_ )

On \_\_\_\_\_ before me, \_\_\_\_\_  
*(insert name of notary public)*

personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_,  
*(insert the name of principal)*

personally known to me (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that he/she executed the same in his/her authorized capacity and that by his/her signature on the instrument the person upon behalf of which the person acted, executed the instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

NOTARY SEAL \_\_\_\_\_  
*(signature of notary)*

**ONE OF YOUR WITNESSES MUST ALSO AGREE WITH THIS STATEMENT**

**HAVE YOUR WITNESS ALSO SIGN AND DATE THIS SECTION AND PRINT THEIR NAME AND ADDRESS**

**OR**

**A NOTARY PUBLIC SHOULD FILL OUT THIS SECTION OF YOUR DOCUMENT**

**THIS SECTION  
IS TO BE  
COMPLETED  
ONLY IF YOU  
ARE A  
RESIDENT IN A  
SKILLED  
NURSING  
FACILITY**

**STATEMENT OF PATIENT ADVOCATE OR OMBUDSMAN**

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of California that I am a patient advocate or ombudsman as designated by the State Department of Aging and that I am serving as witness as required by section 4675 of the Probate Code.

\_\_\_\_\_

(date)

\_\_\_\_\_

(signature)

\_\_\_\_\_

(address)

\_\_\_\_\_

(printed name)

\_\_\_\_\_

(city)

(state)