

# MENTAL HEALTH POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, \_\_\_\_\_, having the capacity to make mental health decisions, authorize my designated health care agent to make certain decisions on my behalf regarding my mental health care. If I have not expressed a choice in this document, I authorize my agent to make the decision that my agent determines is the decision I would make if I were competent to do so.

I understand that mental health care includes any care, treatment, service or procedure to maintain, diagnose, treat or provide for mental health, including any medication program and therapeutic treatment. Electroconvulsive therapy may be administered only if I have specifically consented to it in this document. I will be the subject of laboratory trials or research only if specifically provided for in this document. Mental health care does not include psychosurgery or termination of parental rights.

I understand that my incapacity will be determined by examination by a psychiatrist and one of the following: another psychiatrist, psychologist, family physician, attending physician or mental health treatment professional. Whenever possible, one of the decision makers shall be one of my treating professionals.

## A. Designation of agent

I hereby designate and appoint the following person as my agent to make mental health care decisions for me as authorized in this document.

Name of designated person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

### Agent's acceptance:

I hereby accept designation as mental health care agent for (insert name of declarant).

\_\_\_\_\_

Agent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## B. Designation of alternative agent

In the event that my first agent is unavailable or unable to serve as my mental health care agent, I hereby designate and appoint the following individual as my alternative mental health care agent to make mental health care decisions for me as authorized in this document:

Name of designated person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Alternative Agent's acceptance:**

I hereby accept designation as alternative mental health care agent for (insert name of declarant).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Agent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**C. When this Power of Attorney becomes effective**

This Power of Attorney will become effective at the following designated time:

- ☐ When I am deemed incapable of making mental health care decisions. I would prefer the following doctor(s) to evaluate me for my ability to make mental health decisions:

Name of Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ When the following condition is met: \_\_\_\_\_

**D. Authority granted to my mental health care agent**

I hereby grant to my agent full power and authority to make mental health care decisions for me consistent with the instructions and limitations set forth in this Power of Attorney. If I have not expressed a choice in this Power of Attorney, I authorize my agent to make the decision that my agent determines is the decision I would make if I were competent to do so.

**1. Treatment preferences.**

**(a). Choice of treatment facility.**

- ☐ In the event that I require commitment to a psychiatric treatment facility, I would prefer to be admitted to the following facility:

Name of facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ In the event that I require commitment to a psychiatric treatment facility, I do not wish to be committed to the following facility:

Name of facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that my physician may have to place me in a facility that is not my preference.

**(b). Preferences regarding medications for psychiatric treatment.**

- ☒ I consent to the medications that my agent agrees to after consultation with my treating physician and any other persons my agent considers appropriate.

☐ I consent to the medications that my agent agrees to, with the following exceptions or limitations:

Medication	Reason for Exception
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I consent to the following medications with these limitations:

Medication	Limitation	Reason for Limitation
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

The exception or limitation applies to generic, brand name and trade name equivalents unless otherwise stated. I understand that dosage instructions are not binding on my physician.

☐ My agent is not authorized to consent to the use of any medications.

**(c). Preferences regarding electroconvulsive therapy (ECT).**

☐ My agent is authorized to consent to the administration of electroconvulsive therapy.  
**NOTE: Your agent MAY NOT consent to ECT unless you initial this authorization.**

☐ My agent is not authorized to consent to the administration of electroconvulsive therapy.

**(d). Preferences for experimental studies.**

☐ My agent is authorized to consent to my participation in experimental studies if, after consultation with my treating physician and any other individuals my agent deems appropriate, my agent believes that the potential benefits to me outweigh the possible risks to me.  
**NOTE: Your agent MAY NOT consent to experimental studies unless you initial this authorization.**

☐ My agent is not authorized to consent to my participation in experimental studies.

**(e). Preferences regarding drug trials.**

☐ My agent is authorized to consent to my participation in drug trials if, after consultation with my treating physician and any other individuals my agent deems appropriate, my agent believes that the potential benefits to me outweigh the possible risks to me.  
**NOTE: Your agent MAY NOT consent to research including drug trials unless you initial this authorization.**

☐ My agent is not authorized to consent to my participation in drug trials.

**(f). Additional instructions or information.**

Examples of other instructions or information that may be included:

Activities that help or worsen symptoms:

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Type of intervention preferred in the event of a crisis:

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Mental and physical health history:

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Dietary requirements:

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Religious preferences:

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Temporary custody of children:

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Family notification:

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Limitations on the release or disclosure of mental health records:

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Temporary care and custody of pets:

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Other matters of importance:

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## **E. Revocation and Amendments**

This Power of Attorney may be revoked in whole or in part at any time, either orally or in writing, as long as I have not been found to be incapable of making mental health decisions. My revocation will be effective upon communication to my attending physician or other mental health care provider, either by me or a witness to my revocation, of the intent to revoke. If I choose to revoke a particular instruction contained in this Power of Attorney in the manner specified, I understand that the other instructions contained in this Power of Attorney will remain effective until:

- (4) I revoke this Power of Attorney in its entirety;
- (5) I make a new combined Mental Health Care Declaration and Power of Attorney; or
- (6) Two years from the date this document was executed.

I may make changes to this Power of Attorney at any time, as long as I have capacity to make mental health care decisions. Any changes will be made in writing and be signed and witnessed by two individuals in the same way the original document was executed. Any changes will be effective as soon the changes are communicated to my attending physician or other mental health care provider, either by me, my agent, or a witness to my amendments.

## **F. Termination**

I understand that this Power of Attorney will automatically terminate two years from the date of execution unless I am deemed incapable of making mental health care decisions at the time that the Power of Attorney would expire.

## **G. Preference as to a court-appointed guardian**

I understand that I may nominate a guardian of my person for consideration by the court if incapacity proceedings are commenced under 20 Pa.C.S. § 5511. I understand that the court will appoint a guardian in accordance with my most recent nomination except for good cause or disqualification. In the event a court decides to appoint a guardian, I desire the following person to be appointed:

Name of Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

☐ The appointment of a guardian of my person will not give the guardian the power to revoke, suspend or terminate this Power of Attorney.

☐ Upon appointment of a guardian, I authorize the guardian to revoke, suspend or terminate this Power of Attorney.

## H. Execution

I am making this Mental Health Care Power of Attorney on the

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.  
month year

Principle Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Principle: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Signature

Name of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

If the principal making this Mental Health Care Power of Attorney is unable to sign this document, another individual may sign on behalf of and at the direction of the principal.

Signature of person signing on my behalf: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

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