

OTHER WISHES: *If you wish to write your own instructions, or you wish to add to the instructions you have given above, you may do so here.*

I direct that: _____

_____ *Add additional pages if needed*

PART 3: DESIGNATION OF PRIMARY PHYSICIAN(S)

I designate the following physician as my primary physician. If the first physician I designate below is not willing, able or reasonably available to act as my primary physician, I designate the following alternate physician as my primary physician:

Primary Physician - Name: _____
Address (street, city, state, zip code): _____
Phone - (Office) _____ (other) _____

Alternate Physician - Name: _____
Address (street, city, state, zip code): _____
Phone - (Office) _____ (other) _____

OTHER PROVISIONS

- I revoke any prior Advance Healthcare Directive.
- This Advance Healthcare Directive shall become effective upon my disability or incapacity, unless I have initialed the appropriate space in *Part 1*, in which case, my agent's authority becomes effective immediately.
- **EFFECT OF COPY:** A copy of this form has the same effect as the original.
- **REVOCAION:** I understand that I may revoke this OPTIONAL ADVANCE HEALTHCARE DIRECTIVE at any time and that if I revoke it, I should promptly notify my supervising healthcare provider and any healthcare institution where I am receiving care and any others to whom I have given copies of this **power of attorney**. I understand that I may revoke the designation of an agent only by a signed writing or by personally informing the supervising healthcare provider.

SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL: _____ Date: ____/____/____
Printed Name: _____
Social Security Number: _____ *(optional – verifies identity)*
Address (street, city, state, zip code): _____

SIGNATURE OF WITNESSES

It is recommended, but not required, that you have two other individuals sign as witnesses

Witness #1 – Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____
Printed Name: _____
Address (street, city, state, zip code): _____

Witness #2 – Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____
Printed Name: _____
Address (street, city, state, zip code): _____

ADVANCE DIRECTIVE FOR HEALTHCARE

EXPLANATION

You have the right to give instructions about your own healthcare. You also have the right to name someone else to make healthcare decisions for you. This form lets you do EITHER or BOTH of these things. It also lets you express your wishes regarding the designation of your primary physician.

THIS FORM IS OPTIONAL

Each paragraph and word of this form is also optional. If you use this form, you may cross out, complete or modify all or any part of it. You are free to use a different form. If you have already signed a valid durable power of attorney for healthcare and/or right to die statement (living will), these statements are still valid. If you use this form, be sure to sign it and date it.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO SIGN ANY FORM

If you do not sign a form or tell your doctor whom you want to make your healthcare decisions (or if someone you identify is not reasonably available), New Mexico law allows a family member who is reasonably available, to make your healthcare decisions.

Family members are selected in the following order:

1. spouse
2. significant other
3. adult child
4. parent
5. adult brother or sister
6. grandparent.

If no family member is available, a close friend may act as a surrogate.

PART 1: POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR HEALTHCARE

A Power of Attorney for Healthcare lets you name another individual act as agent to make healthcare 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 also name alternate agents to act for you if your first choice is not willing, able, or reasonably available to make decisions for you. Unless related to you, your agent may not be an owner, operator or employee of a healthcare institution at which you are receiving care.

This form has a place for you to limit the authority of your agent. If you do not limit your agent's authority, your agent may make **all** healthcare decisions for you.

DESIGNATION OF AGENT

I appoint the following person as my agent to make healthcare decisions for me:

Agent Name: _____

Address (street, city, state, zip code): _____

Phone - (home) _____ (work) _____ (other) _____

If I revoke my agent's authority, or if my agent cannot or will not make a healthcare decision for me, then I appoint these persons as my alternative agents, to serve as follows:

First Alternative Agent - Name: _____

Address (street, city, state, zip code): _____

Phone - (home) _____ (work) _____ (other) _____

Second Alternative Agent - Name: _____

Address (street, city, state, zip code): _____

Phone - (home) _____ (work) _____ (other) _____

AGENT'S AUTHORITY:

If you do not limit your agent's authority, your agent will have the right to:

- *consent or refuse consent to any medical care, treatment, service or procedure, such as:*
 - ✓ *diagnostic tests* ✓ *orders not to resuscitate*
 - ✓ *surgery* ✓ *the provision, withholding or withdrawal of artificial nutrition and hydration*
 - ✓ *medication* ✓ *life saving and life prolonging medical treatment*
 - ✓ *hospitalization* ✓ *home healthcare*
 - ✓ *nursing care* ✓ *all other forms of healthcare to keep me alive and*
- *select or change healthcare providers and institutions.*

My agent may make all healthcare decisions for me, including obtaining and reviewing medical records, reports and information about me, except to the extent I limit my agent's authority as follows:

Add additional pages if needed

WHEN AGENT'S AUTHORITY BECOMES EFFECTIVE

My agent's authority to make healthcare decisions for me becomes effective (Initial below):

_____ *When my primary physician and one other qualified healthcare professional determine that I am unable to make my own healthcare decisions.*

_____ *Immediately*

AGENT'S OBLIGATION

My agent shall make healthcare decisions for me based on this *Power of Attorney for Healthcare*, any healthcare 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 healthcare 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.

NOMINATION OF A GUARDIAN

If a guardian 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 guardian, I nominate the alternate agents whom I have named, in the order designated.

PART 2: INSTRUCTIONS FOR HEALTHCARE

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

END OF LIFE DECISIONS

If I am unable to make or communicate decisions regarding my healthcare, and IF

- I have an incurable or irreversible condition that will result in my death within a relatively short time, OR
- I become unconscious and, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty, I will not regain consciousness, OR
- The likely risks and burdens of treatment would outweigh the expected benefits,

THEN I direct that my healthcare providers and others involved in my care provide, withhold or withdraw treatment in accordance with the **one choice** I have initialed below:

I CHOOSE to:

- _____ **NOT Prolong Life.** *I do not want my life to be prolonged.*
- _____ **Prolong Life.** *I want my life to be prolonged as long as possible within the limits of generally accepted healthcare standards.*
- _____ **To Let My Agent** *make life sustaining treatment decisions for me under my Power of Attorney for Healthcare*

ARTIFICIAL NUTRITION AND HYDRATION

If I have chosen above **NOT** to prolong life, I also specify as initialed below:

- _____ **I DO NOT** _____ **I DO** want artificial nutrition (food)
- _____ **I DO NOT** _____ **I DO** want artificial hydration (water) unless required for my comfort

RELIEF FROM PAIN

Regardless of the choices I have made in this form and except as I state in the following space, I direct that the best medical care possible be provided to keep me clean, comfortable and free of pain or discomfort at all times so that my dignity is maintained, even if this care hastens my death.

Add additional pages if needed

ANATOMICAL GIFT DESIGNATION

Upon my death I specify as marked (*initial in space below*) whether I choose to make an anatomical gift of all or some of my organs or tissue:

- _____ I CHOOSE to make an anatomical gift of all of my organs or tissue to be determined by medical suitability at the time of death, and artificial support may be maintained long enough for organs to be removed.
- _____ I CHOOSE to make a partial anatomical gift of some of my organs and tissue as specified below, and artificial support may be maintained long enough for organs to be removed.
- _____ I REFUSE to make anatomical gift of any of my organs or tissue.
- _____ I CHOOSE to let my agent decide.