



compassion & choices

Support. Educate. Advocate. Choice & Care at the End of Life.

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## The Dementia Provision

Most Advance Directives become operative only when a person is unable to make health care decisions and is either “permanently unconscious” or “terminally ill.” There is usually no provision that applies to the situation in which a person suffers from severe dementia but is neither unconscious nor dying.

The following language can be added to any Advance Directive or Living Will. There it will serve to advise physicians and family of the wishes of a patient with Alzheimer’s Disease or other forms of dementia. You may simply sign and date this form and include it with the form *My Particular Wishes* in your Advance Directive.

**If I am unconscious and it is unlikely that I will ever become conscious again, I would like my wishes regarding specific life-sustaining treatments, as indicated on the attached document entitled *My Particular Wishes* to be followed.**

**If I remain conscious but have a progressive illness that will be fatal and the illness is in an advanced stage, and I am consistently and permanently unable to communicate, swallow food and water safely, care for myself and recognize my family and other people, and it is very unlikely that my condition will substantially improve, I would like my wishes regarding specific life-sustaining treatments, as indicated on the attached document entitled *My Particular Wishes* to be followed.**

**If I am unable to feed myself while in this condition**

**I do / do not (circle one) want to be fed.**

I hereby incorporate this provision in to my durable power of attorney for health care, living will and any other previously executed advance directive for health care decisions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date