

SUPPLEMENTAL DIRECTIVE TO GUIDE HEALTH CARE DECISIONS

****CLIENT****

I am a Jew. I express that affiliation in a variety of ways in my life, and I want Jewish teaching and values to guide and inform the way in which I live through all times in my life, including times when I may be temporarily unable to communicate, seriously ill, or in the final stages of my life. I know that at some point I may not be able to make decisions about my health care, and so I have completed this form to help make my wishes known.

Judaism values life and demands that we seek medical care. I share Judaism's respect for my body, the creation and possession of God, and I consequently wish that all prudent medical treatment be extended to me with the aim of effecting my recovery. Nothing in this directive should be construed as a wish to die, but rather as a wish to live in accordance with the traditions of Judaism and God's desires.

I ask that my health care agent, and anyone else participating in the making of medical decision on my behalf, consider carefully my wishes as reflected in this document or otherwise ascertainable. This document should not be understood as a rejection of care, but as an indication of my preferences about medical care, including desires to have specific types of treatments administered. I understand that my wishes as expressed in this document, or as articulated by my health care agent or another surrogate deciding on my behalf, will not have greater power to compel treatment than would be the case if I could contemporaneously state my views.

I intend this document to help guide my medical care in a variety of situations, including the last period of my life. Let me say in advance that I fully appreciate the loving care given to me by my family and friends and by members of the health care professions. If I cannot thank you personally at that time, I wish do so now from the depths of my heart. You are performing a true act of "hesed," an act of devotion and love. If the pain I suffer at that time makes me cranky and hard to tolerate, please forgive me. Please understand that I may not be in control of my reactions at that time and that, no matter what I say or do, I deeply appreciate the many kindnesses you have bestowed upon me throughout life and especially at that critical stage.

****Client****

Date