

End of Life Care Instructions

Hospice, Comfort Measures, Withhold, or Termination of Life Supporting Measures

Client must be considered terminally ill or have a combination of factors that make death imminent, in which continuation of care is only serving to artificially prolong the client's outcome.

(1) Attending and (1) Consulting Physician will submit each of their own **signed statements** that include:

- Clients condition, prognosis, and overall clinical picture
- Why the client will no longer benefit from the active current treatment
- What the exact recommendations for care are (terminating mechanical ventilation, discontinuing nutrition/hydration, discontinuing dialysis, etc.)
- **Please do not request Do Not Hospitalize, we will not approve a DNH order.**
- What will be provided to keep the client comfortable (oral care, medications for anxiety or pain, comfort feedings, etc.)

(Anytime that the request includes withholding of artificial nutrition or hydration, we will request an alternative nutrition plan (example: comfort feedings with aspiration precautions)

- ❖ Both physician's letters must recommend the same plan of care.
- ❖ Additional medical records may be requested

These signed statements must be faxed to the Department of Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) Nurse Consultant at (502)564-1203

YOU MUST INCLUDE A FAX COVER SHEET WITH CONTACT NAME, TELEPHONE NUMBER, & FAX NUMBER SO THAT WE MAY CONTACT YOU FOR APPROVAL OR MISSING INFORMATION

Once these letters are received, the appropriate State Guardian will be notified by the DAIL Nurse Consultant. The State Guardian will then make contact with the clients known family to inform them of the client's condition. All information will then be sent electronically to the DAIL Commissioner for final determination.

Once the process is complete and the client is deemed appropriate for end of life care, the facility will be notified both verbally and in writing by the State Guardian or DAIL Nurse Consultant.

**If you have any questions, please feel free to contact DAIL Nurse Consultant:
Mary Ailiff, RN (502) 564-6930 ext 3971 or Leanna McGaughey, RN (502) 564-6930 ext 3890**

Please note that we must thoroughly review all requests to ensure we are making the best decision on behalf of our clients. These reviews and approval occur during regular business hours. The After Hours Guardianship Hotline cannot accept, review, or approve any requests.

**FOR AFTER HOURS GUARDIANSHIP EMERGENCY PLEASE CALL
844-550-9006**