

# *The Halachic Medical Directive*

## ***DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY AND DIRECTIVE WITH RESPECT TO HEALTH CARE AND POST-MORTEM DECISIONS***

### ***FOR USE IN ILLINOIS***

The “Halachic Medical Directive” is designed to help ensure that all medical and post-death decisions made by others on your behalf will be made in accordance with Jewish law and custom (*halacha*). The text of this Halachic Medical Directive has been approved by attorneys for use in your state as of January 2016. While we do not expect that any future change in federal or state laws would materially affect the validity of this document, you may wish to show it to your own attorney to confirm its effectiveness in subsequent years.

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### **INSTRUCTIONS**

**(a) In section 1 (page 5), print your name.**

**Note:** This form is effective only if you are a competent adult (an adult is a person 18 years of age or older).

**(b) Then, below that (still on page 5), print the name, address, and telephone numbers of the person you wish to designate as your agent** (known under Illinois law as your “attorney-in-fact”) to make medical decisions on your behalf if, G-d forbid, you ever become incapable of making them on your own. Be sure to include all numbers (including cell phone and pager) where your agent can be reached in the event of an emergency. If the contact information for your agent changes, you should provide that updated information to everyone whom you have provided with a copy of your Halachic Medical Directive.

**You may also insert the name, address, and telephone numbers of an alternate agent** to make such decisions if your primary agent is unable, unwilling, or unavailable to make such decisions. **This is accomplished in section 5 (when you get to page 8).**

It is recommended that before appointing anyone to serve as your agent or alternate agent you should ascertain that person’s willingness to serve in such capacity. In addition, if you have made arrangements with a burial society (Chevra Kadisha), you may wish to advise your agents of such arrangements.

**Note:** You may appoint any competent adult to serve as your health care agent, **except** your attending physician or a person who is administering health care to you.

**(c) In section 2 (on page 6), please print the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the Orthodox Rabbi, and alternate Orthodox Rabbi if the first one cannot be reached in an emergency, whose guidance you want your agent to follow,** should any questions arise as to the requirements of halacha.

**You should then (page 7) print the name, address, and telephone numbers of the Orthodox Jewish institution or organization you want your agent to contact for a referral to another Orthodox Rabbi** if the Rabbi or Rabbis that you have identified on page 6 is (or are) unable, unwilling or unavailable to provide the appropriate consultation and guidance.

You are, of course, free to insert the name of any Orthodox Rabbi or institution/organization you would like, but before doing so it is advisable to discuss the matter with the Rabbi or institution/organization to ascertain their competency and willingness to serve in such capacity. You may list Agudath Israel of America as the organization you select; however, we are only available to be contacted on regular business hours and days.

**(d) Your agent's authority will become effective** at the time this Halachic Medical Directive is signed, **unless** you initial the box in **section 3 (on page 8)**. If you initial this box, you must also insert a future date or an event, such as your physician or a court determination of your disability, when you want this power to first take effect. You may also limit the duration of your agent's authority by initialing and completing the box in **section 4 (still on page 8)**.

**(e) You may wish to name your agent as guardian of your person, should a court decide that one should be appointed. This is accomplished in section 6 (on page 9). If you do not wish to name your agent as guardian, strike out section 6.**

**(f) At the conclusion of the form on page 9, sign and print your name, the date, your address, and telephone number.**

**(g) The witnesses should agree to the paragraph written below your signature on page 9, write their names and addresses and the date, and sign where indicated. The witnesses must be competent and 18 years old or older.**

**(h) You or your agent should notify your health care provider of the existence of this Halachic Medical Directive and of any amendment or revocation. It is recommended that you keep the original of this form among your valuable papers in a location that is readily accessible in the event of an emergency and that you **distribute copies to the health care agent (and alternate agent)** you have designated in sections 1 and 5, **to the Rabbi and institution/organization** you have designated in section 2, as well as to **your doctor, your lawyer**, and anyone else who is likely to be contacted in times of emergency. We also recommend that you register a copy of this form with a national registry, so that it can be accessed by any health care facility via computer. Agudath Israel has made an arrangement with the New York Legal Assistance Group to register Halachic Medical Directives for our constituents with the U.S. Living Will Registry at no charge. To obtain the forms to enable you to do so, e-mail [ILdirective@agudathisrael.org](mailto:ILdirective@agudathisrael.org) or call our office (212-797-9000).**

**(i) If at any time you wish to revoke this Halachic Medical Directive, you may do so by destroying or defacing the document in a manner which indicates your intention to revoke it, by signing and dating a written revocation (or by directing another person to do so on your behalf) or by making an oral revocation in the presence of an adult witness who signs and dates a writing confirming that such expression of intent was made. To avoid possible confusion, it would be wise to try to obtain all originals and copies of the old Halachic Medical Directive and destroy them.**

If you do not revoke this Halachic Medical Directive, it will remain in effect indefinitely, subject to any limitation in section 4. Obviously, if any of the persons whose names you have inserted in the form dies or becomes otherwise incapable of serving in the role you have assigned, it would be wise to execute a new Halachic Medical Directive.

You may amend the Halachic Medical Directive by a written amendment signed and dated by you, or by a person acting at your direction.

(j) It is recommended that you also complete and cut out the **Emergency Instructions Card** contained on the last page of this Halachic Medical Directive, and carry it with you in your wallet or purse.

(k) If, upon consultation with your Rabbi, you would like to add to this standardized Halachic Medical Directive any additional expression of your wishes with respect to medical and/or post-mortem decisions, you may do so by attaching a rider to the standardized form. If you choose to do so, or if you have any other questions concerning this form, please consult an attorney.

These instructions are not part of the Halachic Medical Directive and need not be kept  
attached to the executed document.

**DISCLAIMER: INDIVIDUALS SHOULD COMPLETE THIS FORM AND ALL OTHER IMPORTANT LEGAL DOCUMENTS, IN CONSULTATION WITH A QUALIFIED ESTATE PLANNING OR ELDER LAW ATTORNEY**

**NOTICE TO THE INDIVIDUAL SIGNING  
THE POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR HEALTH CARE**

No one can predict when a serious illness or accident might occur. When it does, you may need someone else to speak or make health care decisions for you. If you plan now, you can increase the chances that the medical treatment you get will be the treatment you want.

In Illinois, you can choose someone to be your “health care agent.” Your agent is the person you trust to make health care decisions for you if you are unable or do not want to make them yourself. These decisions should be based on your personal values and wishes.

It is important to put your choice of agent in writing. The written form is often called an “advance directive.” You may use this form or another form, as long as it meets the legal requirements of Illinois. There are many written and on-line resources to guide you and your loved ones in having a conversation about these issues. You may find it helpful to look at these resources while thinking about and discussing your advance directive.

**WHAT ARE THE THINGS I WANT MY  
HEALTH CARE AGENT TO KNOW?**

The selection of your agent should be considered carefully, as your agent will have the ultimate decision making authority once this document goes into effect, in most instances after you are no longer able to make your own decisions. While the goal is for your agent to make decisions in keeping with your preferences and in the majority of circumstances that is what happens, please know that the law does allow your agent to make decisions to direct or refuse health care interventions or withdraw treatment. Your agent will need to think about conversations you have had, your personality, and how you handled important health care issues in the past. Therefore, it is important to talk with your agent and your family about such things as:

- (i) What is most important to you in your life?
- (ii) How important is it to you to avoid pain and suffering?
- (iii) If you had to choose, is it more important to you to live as long as possible, or to avoid prolonged suffering or disability?
- (iv) Would you rather be at home or in a hospital for the last days or weeks of your life?
- (v) Do you have religious, spiritual, or cultural beliefs that you want your agent and others to consider?
- (vi) Do you wish to make a significant contribution to medical science after your death through organ or whole body donation?
- (vii) Do you have an existing advanced directive, such as a living will, that contains your specific wishes about health care that is only delaying your death? If you have another advance directive, make sure to discuss with your agent the directive and the treatment decisions contained within that outline your preferences. Make sure that your agent agrees to honor the wishes expressed in your advance directive.

## **WHAT KIND OF DECISIONS CAN MY AGENT MAKE?**

If there is ever a period of time when your physician determines that you cannot make your own health care decisions, or if you do not want to make your own decisions, some of the decisions your agent could make are to:

- (i) talk with physicians and other health care providers about your condition.
- (ii) see medical records and approve who else can see them.
- (iii) give permission for medical tests, medicines, surgery, or other treatments.
- (iv) choose where you receive care and which physicians and others provide it.
- (v) decide to accept, withdraw, or decline treatments designed to keep you alive if you are near death or not likely to recover. You may choose to include guidelines and/or restrictions to your agent's authority.
- (vi) agree or decline to donate your organs or your whole body if you have not already made this decision yourself. This could include donation for transplant, research, and/or education. You should let your agent know whether you are registered as a donor in the First Person Consent registry maintained by the Illinois Secretary of State or whether you have agreed to donate your whole body for medical research and/or education.
- (vii) decide what to do with your remains after you have died, if you have not already made plans.
- (viii) talk with your other loved ones to help come to a decision (but your designated agent will have the final say over your other loved ones).

Your agent is not automatically responsible for your health care expenses.

## **WHOM SHOULD I CHOOSE TO BE MY HEALTH CARE AGENT?**

You can pick a family member, but you do not have to. Your agent will have the responsibility to make medical treatment decisions, even if other people close to you might urge a different decision. The selection of your agent should be done carefully, as he or she will have ultimate decision-making authority for your treatment decisions once you are no longer able to voice your preferences. Choose a family member, friend, or other person who:

- (i) is at least 18 years old;
- (ii) knows you well;
- (iii) you trust to do what is best for you and is willing to carry out your wishes, even if he or she may not agree with your wishes;
- (iv) would be comfortable talking with and questioning your physicians and other health care providers;
- (v) would not be too upset to carry out your wishes if you became very sick; and
- (vi) can be there for you when you need it and is willing to accept this important role.

## **WHAT IF MY AGENT IS NOT AVAILABLE OR IS UNWILLING TO MAKE DECISIONS FOR ME?**

If the person who is your first choice is unable to carry out this role, then the second agent you chose will make the decisions; if your second agent is not available, then the third agent you chose will make the decisions. The second and third agents are called your successor agents and they function as back-up agents to your first choice agent and may act only one at a time and in the order you list them.

## **WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I DO NOT CHOOSE A HEALTH CARE AGENT?**

If you become unable to make your own health care decisions and have not named an agent in writing, your physician and other health care providers will ask a family member, friend, or guardian to make decisions for you. In Illinois, a law directs which of these individuals will be consulted. In that law, each of these individuals is called a “surrogate.” There are reasons why you may want to name an agent rather than rely on a surrogate:

- (i) The person or people listed by this law may not be who you would want to make decisions for you.
- (ii) Some family members or friends might not be able or willing to make decisions as you would want them to.
- (iii) Family members and friends may disagree with one another about the best decisions.
- (iv) Under some circumstances, a surrogate may not be able to make the same kinds of decisions that an agent can make.

## **WHAT IF THERE IS NO ONE AVAILABLE WHOM I TRUST TO BE MY AGENT?**

In this situation, it is especially important to talk to your physician and other health care providers and create written guidance about what you want or do not want, in case you are ever critically ill and cannot express your own wishes.

You can complete a living will. You can also write your wishes down and/or discuss them with your physician or other health care provider and ask him or her to write it down in your chart. You might also want to use written or on-line resources to guide you through this process.

## **WHAT DO I DO WITH THIS FORM ONCE I COMPLETE IT?**

Follow these instructions after you have completed the form:

- (i) Sign the form in front of a witness. See the form for a list of who can and cannot witness it.
- (ii) Ask the witness to sign it, too.
- (iii) There is no need to have the form notarized.
- (iv) Give a copy to your agent and to each of your successor agents.
- (v) Give another copy to your physician.
- (vi) Take a copy with you when you go to the hospital.
- (vii) Show it to your family and friends and others who care for you.

## **WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND?**

You may change your mind at any time. If you do, tell someone who is at least 18 years old that you have changed your mind, and/or destroy your document and any copies. If you wish, fill out a new form and make sure everyone you gave the old form to has a copy of the new one, including, but not limited to, your agents and your physicians.

## **WHAT IF I DO NOT WANT TO USE THIS FORM?**

In the event you do not want to use the Illinois statutory form provided here, any document you complete must be executed by you, designate an agent who is over 18 years of age and not prohibited from serving as your agent, and state the agent's powers, but it need not be witnessed or conform in any other respect to the statutory health care power. If you have questions about the use of any form, you may want to consult your physician, other health care provider, and/or an attorney.

**DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY AND ADVANCE DIRECTIVE FOR HEALTH CARE**

**THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY REVOKES ALL  
PREVIOUS POWERS OF ATTORNEY FOR HEALTH CARE.**

1. My name: \_\_\_\_\_

My address: \_\_\_\_\_

**I WANT THE FOLLOWING PERSON TO BE MY HEALTH CARE AGENT**

(an agent is your personal representative under state and federal law):

(Agent name): \_\_\_\_\_

(Agent address): \_\_\_\_\_

(Agent phone number): \_\_\_\_\_

(Agent cell phone): \_\_\_\_\_

**MY AGENT CAN MAKE HEALTH CARE DECISIONS FOR ME, INCLUDING:**

- (i) Deciding to accept, withdraw, or decline treatment for any physical or mental condition of mine, including life-and-death decisions.
- (ii) Agreeing to admit me to or discharge me from any hospital, home, or other institution, including a mental health facility.
- (iii) Having complete access to my medical and mental health records, and sharing them with others (including the Rabbi or Rabbis identified below) as needed, including after I die.
- (iv) Carrying out the plans I have already made, or, if I have not done so, making decisions about my body or remains, including organ, tissue or whole body donation, autopsy, cremation, and burial.

The above grant of power is intended to be as broad as possible so that my agent will have the authority to make any decision I could make to obtain or terminate any type of health care, including administration or withdrawal of nutrition and hydration and other life-sustaining measures.

**I AUTHORIZE MY AGENT TO** (please check any one box):

- Make decisions for me only when I cannot make them for myself. The physician(s) taking care of me will determine when I lack this ability. (If no box is checked, then the box above shall be implemented.) OR
- Make decisions for me starting now and continuing after I am no longer able to make them for myself. While I am still able to make my own decisions, I can still do so if I want to. The subject of life-sustaining treatment is of particular importance. Life-sustaining treatments may include tube feedings or fluids through a tube, breathing machines, and CPR.

In general, in making decisions concerning life-sustaining treatment, your agent is instructed to consider the relief of suffering, the quality as well as the possible extension of your life, and your previously expressed wishes. Your agent will weigh the burdens versus benefits of proposed treatments in making decisions on your behalf.



(THE ABOVE GRANT OF POWER IS INTENDED TO BE AS BROAD AS POSSIBLE SO THAT YOUR AGENT WILL HAVE AUTHORITY TO MAKE ANY DECISION YOU COULD MAKE TO OBTAIN OR TERMINATE ANY TYPE OF HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING ADMINISTRATION AND WITHDRAWAL OF FOOD AND WATER AND OTHER LIFE-SUSTAINING MEASURES, IF YOUR AGENT BELIEVES SUCH ACTION WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH YOUR INTENT AND DESIRES. IF YOU WISH TO LIMIT THE SCOPE OF YOUR AGENT'S POWERS OR PRESCRIBE SPECIAL RULES OR LIMIT THE POWER TO MAKE AN ANATOMICAL GIFT, AUTHORIZE AUTOPSY OR DISPOSE OF REMAINS, YOU MAY DO SO IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS.)

**SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS TO MY AGENT'S DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

**2. Jewish Law to Govern Health Care Decisions:** I am Jewish. It is my desire, and I hereby direct, that all health care decisions made for me (whether made by my agent, a guardian appointed for me, or any other person) be made pursuant to Jewish law and custom as determined in accordance with strict Orthodox interpretation and tradition. Without limiting in any way the generality of the foregoing, it is my wish that Jewish law and custom should dictate the course of my health care with respect to such matters as the performance of cardio-pulmonary resuscitation if I suffer cardiac or respiratory arrest; the performance of life-sustaining surgical procedures and the initiation or maintenance of any particular course of life-sustaining medical treatment or other form of life-support maintenance, including the provision of nutrition and hydration; and the criteria by which death shall be determined, including the method by which such criteria shall be medically ascertained or confirmed.

**Ascertaining the Requirements of Jewish Law:** In determining the requirements of Jewish law and custom in connection with this declaration, I direct my agent to consult with the following Orthodox Rabbi and I ask my agent to follow his guidance:

*Rabbi* Name of Rabbi:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone:  
\_\_\_\_\_

If such Orthodox Rabbi is unable, unwilling or unavailable to provide such consultation and guidance, then I direct my agent to consult with, and I ask my agent to follow the guidance of, the following Orthodox Rabbi:

*Rabbi* Name of Alternate Rabbi:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Address:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone:  
\_\_\_\_\_

If both of these Orthodox Rabbis are unable, unwilling or unavailable to provide such consultation and guidance, then I direct my agent to consult with, and I ask my agent to follow the guidance of, an Orthodox Rabbi referred by the following Orthodox Jewish institution or organization:

**Organization** Name of Institution/Organization:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Day:

Evening:

\_\_\_\_\_

If such institution or organization is unable, unwilling or unavailable to make such a reference, or if the Orthodox Rabbi referred by such institution or organization is unable, unwilling or unavailable to provide such guidance, then I direct my agent to consult with, and I ask my agent to follow the guidance of, an Orthodox Rabbi whose guidance on issues of Jewish law and custom my agent in good faith believes I would respect and follow.

**Direction to Health Care Providers:** Any health care provider shall rely upon and carry out the decisions of my agent, and may assume that such decisions reflect my wishes and were arrived at in accordance with the procedures set forth in this directive, unless such health care provider shall have good cause to believe that my agent has not acted in good faith in accordance with my wishes as expressed in this directive.

If the persons designated as my agent and alternate agent (in sections 1 and 5 respectively) are unable, unwilling or unavailable to serve in such capacity, it is my desire, and I hereby direct, that any health care provider or other person who will be making health care decisions on my behalf follow the procedures outlined above in this section in determining the requirements of Jewish law and custom.

Pending contact with the agent and/or Orthodox Rabbi described above, it is my desire, and I hereby direct, that all health care providers undertake all essential emergency and/or life sustaining measures on my behalf.

**Access to Medical Records and Information; HIPAA:** My agent is my personal representative, as such term is defined under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”), and accordingly all of my protected health information (as such term is defined under HIPAA) and other medical records shall be made available to my agent upon request in the same manner as such information and records would be released and disclosed to me, and my agent shall have and may exercise all of the rights I would have regarding the use and disclosure of such information and records, as required under HIPAA, including the right to provide complete access to my protected health information and other medical records to the Rabbi or Rabbis identified above to consult with and guide my agent.

**Post-Mortem Decisions:** It is my desire, and I hereby direct, that after my death, all decisions concerning the handling and disposition of my body be made pursuant to Jewish law and custom as determined in accordance with strict Orthodox interpretation and tradition. For example, Jewish law generally requires expeditious burial and imposes special requirements with regard to the preparation of the body for burial. It is my wish that Jewish law and custom be followed with respect to these matters. I further direct that my agent be responsible for the disposition of my remains.

Further, subject to certain limited exceptions, Jewish law generally prohibits the performance of any autopsy or dissection. It is my wish that Jewish law and custom be followed with respect to such procedures, and with respect to all other post-mortem matters including the removal and usage of any of my body organs or tissue for transplantation or any other purposes. I direct that any health care provider in attendance at my death notify the agent and/or Orthodox Rabbi described above immediately upon my death, in addition to

any other person whose consent by law must be solicited and obtained, prior to the use of any part of my body as an anatomical gift, so that appropriate decisions and arrangements can be made in accordance with my wishes. Pending such notification, and unless there is specific authorization by the Orthodox Rabbi consulted in accordance with the procedures outlined above in this section, it is my desire, and I hereby direct, that no post-mortem procedure be performed on my body.

**Incontrovertible Evidence of My Wishes:** If, for any reason, this document is deemed not legally effective as a health care proxy, or if the persons designated in section 1 above as my agent and alternate agent are unable, unwilling or unavailable to serve in such capacity, I declare to my family, my doctor and anyone else whom it may concern that the wishes I have expressed herein with regard to compliance with Jewish law and custom should be treated as incontrovertible evidence of my intent and desire with respect to all health care measures and post-mortem procedures; and that it is my wish that the procedure outlined above in this section should be followed in determining the requirements of Jewish law and custom.

(THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY MAY BE AMENDED OR REVOKED BY YOU IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN SECTION 4-6 OF THE ILLINOIS "POWERS OF ATTORNEY FOR HEALTH CARE LAW". ABSENT AMENDMENT OR REVOCATION, THE AUTHORITY GRANTED IN THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE AT THE TIME THIS POWER IS SIGNED AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL YOUR DEATH, AND BEYOND IF ANATOMICAL GIFT, AUTOPSY OR DISPOSITION OF REMAINS IS AUTHORIZED, UNLESS A LIMITATION ON THE BEGINNING DATE OR DURATION IS MADE BY INITIALING AND COMPLETING EITHER OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:)

3. ( ) This power of attorney shall become effective on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

(insert a future date or event during your lifetime, such as court determination of your disability, when you want this power to first take effect)

4. ( ) This power of attorney shall terminate on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

(insert a future date or event, such as court determination of your disability, when you want this power to terminate prior to your death)

(IF YOU WISH TO NAME SUCCESSOR AGENTS, INSERT THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF SUCH SUCCESSORS IN THE FOLLOWING SECTION.)

5. If any agent named by me shall die, become incompetent, resign, refuse to accept the office of agent or be unavailable, I name the following as successor to such agent:

*Alternate  
Agent*

Name of Alternate Agent:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone:

For purposes of this section 5, a person shall be considered to be incompetent if and while the person is a minor or an adjudicated incompetent or disabled person or the person is unable to give prompt and intelligent consideration to health care matters, as certified by a licensed physician.

(IF YOU WISH TO NAME YOUR AGENT AS GUARDIAN OF YOUR PERSON, IN THE EVENT A COURT DECIDES THAT ONE SHOULD BE APPOINTED, YOU MAY, BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO BY RETAINING THE FOLLOWING SECTION. THE COURT WILL APPOINT YOUR AGENT IF THE COURT FINDS THAT SUCH APPOINTMENT WILL SERVE YOUR BEST INTERESTS AND WELFARE. STRIKE OUT SECTION 6 IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR AGENT TO ACT AS GUARDIAN.)

6. If a guardian of my person is to be appointed, I nominate the agent acting under this power of attorney as such guardian, to serve without bond or security.

7. I am fully informed as to all the contents of this form and understand the full import of this grant of powers to my agent.

*My Signature*    Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(If you are not physically capable of signing, please ask another person to sign your name on your behalf.)

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**HAVE YOUR WITNESSES AGREE TO WHAT IS WRITTEN BELOW,  
AND THEN COMPLETE THE SIGNATURE PORTION**

I am at least 18 years old. I saw the principal sign this document, or the principal told me that the signature or mark on the principal signature line is his or hers. I am not the agent or successor agent(s) named in this document. I am not related to the principal, the agent, or the successor agent(s) by blood, marriage, or adoption. I am not the principal's physician, mental health service provider, or a relative of one of those individuals. I am not an owner or operator (or the relative of an owner or operator) of the health care facility where the principal is a patient or resident.

Witness 1 printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness 1 address: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness 1 signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness 2 printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness 2 address: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness 2 signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Emergency Instructions

I \_\_\_\_\_, have executed a "Halachic Medical Directive" with respect to medical and post-mortem decisions, dated \_\_\_\_\_. Pursuant to the "Halachic Medical Directive" the persons listed on the reverse of this card are to serve as my agent and alternate agent, respectively, in making health care decisions for me if I become unable to do so on my own. I desire that all such health care decisions, as well as all decisions relating to the handling and disposition of my body after I die, should be made pursuant to Jewish law and custom as determined in accordance with strict Orthodox interpretation and tradition. If there is any questions regarding Jewish law and custom, my agent (or any other person making decisions for me) should consult with and follow the guidance of the rabbi identified on the reverse of this card, or as a second choice the rabbi referred by the institution/organization identified on the reverse of this card, or as a third choice an Orthodox Rabbi whose guidance my health care decision maker in good faith believes I would respect and follow. Pending contact with my agent and/or rabbi, I desire that health care providers should undertake all essential emergency measures on my behalf; and I desire that no autopsy, organ removal, or other post mortem procedure be performed on my body without authorization from my agent and/or rabbi.

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Fold on the dotted line to create a double sided card  
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### EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONS

Agent: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Evening: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Agent: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Evening: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rabbi: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Evening: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_