

Sample Advance Directive for My Child

Advance Directive For

Name

As the parents of _____ we are writing this advance directive and expect and anticipate that the physicians caring for our child will honor our wishes. We realize that such an advance directive for a minor does not carry the weight of a legal document, but nevertheless, as _____'s parents, we feel that we need to speak for our child.

Our child has a condition known as _____.

Our child has already experienced the following as a result of this condition:

We know that it is unlikely that _____ will live until adulthood. We are determined to make our child's life as positive, comfortable, and pain-free as possible.

We only want the most loving choices made for our child.

We do not wish to have any procedures or interventions attempted that will prolong _____'s dying.

Additionally, we wish the following:

	Want	Don't Want
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) The use of medications, artificial breathing, chest compressions and electricity to start the heart after it has stopped.	_____	_____
Airway Support Airway clearance of debris, physical stimulation oxygen use, and short duration bag and mask ventilation.	_____	_____
Mechanical Breathing Breathing by a machine through a tube placed in the airway through the nose or mouth.	_____	_____
Pain & Symptom Management To accomplish this we expect a commitment to continuous, effective pain and symptom management through medications and other methods to ensure physical, emotional, and spiritual comfort.	_____	_____
Visitors We expect that _____ will have unrestricted access to family and other loved ones to assist with our child's care and comfort.	_____	_____
Nutrition and Hydration Food and fluid given through a tube in the veins, nose, or through the abdominal wall into the stomach or intestine.	_____	_____

Want Don't Want

Surgery

To provide comfort and maintain _____'s
current level of function.

Dialysis

The use of a machine to remove waste from the
Blood when the kidneys can no longer do that job.

Antibiotics

Medications used to fight infections.

Transfusions

Of blood or blood products (such as platelets)
to provide energy or stop potential bleeding.

Diagnostic Testing

Tests with little potential for complications or
discomfort that provide information, such as
blood tests or x-rays.

Signatures:

Mother

Father

Witness

Date: _____