

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES – VALUES DECLARATION A GUIDE FOR PATIENT ADVOCATE

This is not a legal document. The following value statements are intended to serve as a guide for anyone making medical decisions for me when I am unable to participate in the decision-making. I direct that this values declaration become part of my medical record. My initials indicate it is in accord with my beliefs and wishes.

_____ God, as revealed in the Bible, is sovereign and He alone determines the length of our lives.

_____ The Bible is my final authority and all decisions related to my life must be consistent with its teachings.

_____ For me, physical death is a transition from this temporal, earthly existence into an eternal existence in the presence of God, therefore it is not paramount that my life be extended at all cost.

_____ Although life can be burdensome in many ways, earthly existence remains intrinsically good. Therefore, remaining alive is never rightly regarded as being a burden in itself, and deliberately ending human life is never rightly regarded as providing a benefit.

_____ Although the elimination of pain and/or suffering is one legitimate goal of medicine, intentionally hastening the death of a person as a means of obtaining relief from pain and/or suffering is not a legitimate medical practice. Therefore, I reject assisted suicide and euthanasia as immoral and illegitimate means of addressing pain and/or suffering.

_____ As a person possessing intrinsic dignity, worth and value, whether conscious or unconscious, I have a right not to have my life taken by those whose responsibility it is to provide care to me.

The following lines are to express other values or beliefs not indicated above.

Signature _____ Date _____