

How to Select Your Health Care Agent or Proxy

Name & Date _____

When you decide to pick someone to speak for you in a medical crisis, in case you are not able to speak for yourself, there are several things to think about. This tool will help you decide who the best person is. Usually it is best to name *one* person or agent to serve at a time, with at least one successor, or back-up person, in case the first person is not available when needed.

Compare up to 3 people with this tool.
The persons best suited to be your Health Care Agents or Proxies rate well on these qualifications...

Name #1:			
		Name #2:	
		Name #3:	
			1. Meets the legal criteria in your state to act agent or proxy. (This is a must! See next page.)
			2. Will listen to and respect your values, goals, and wishes.
			3. Will be willing to speak and act on your wishes and separate his/her own views from yours.
			4. Lives close by or could travel to be at your side if needed.
			5. Is someone you trust with your life.
			6. Will likely be available long into the future.
			7. Able to ask good questions and be a strong advocate in the face of an unresponsive doctor or institution.
			8. Will be able to handle conflicting opinions between family members, friends, and medical personnel.