

## Healthcare Ethics Questionnaire for Nursing Home Residents or for Personal Reflection

**We are interested in learning more about your attitudes around resident rights and related topics. There are no right or wrong answers and you do not have to sign this if you do not wish. We just want to know what your concerns are around health care and related issues.**

### **I Pain, Suffering and Human Transformation**

**a.** Pain may or may not be associated with suffering. "Suffering is an anguish which we experience as not only as a pressure to change but as a threat to our composure, our integrity and the fulfillment of our intentions." (Reich,1987) If pain is relieved, suffering is mitigated. We have the right to adequate pain management and if this is not possible to get, we or our agent should understand why.

- This needs attention here.
- This is true here.
- Comment:

### **II Respect and Human Dignity**

**b.** In general we take responsibility for our health care and enter into decisionmaking about courses of treatment, treatment options. We have the freedom to add or subtract certain aspects of our care.

- This needs attention here.
- This is true here.
- Comment:

**c.** The notion of ethics as it impacts care of the residents and decisions about the quantity and quality of care here is understood.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

**d.** We have the right to be spoken to with dignity and respect.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

e. We have the right to refuse care in certain situations.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

f. When a resident is transferred from one level of care to another she is part of the decision process.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

### **III Privacy**

g. We have the right to be cared for in surroundings designed to give reasonable visual and auditory privacy.

- This is true here.
- These issues need attention.
- Comment:

### **IV Confidentiality**

h. The human story of each of us is one to be protected and cherished. Therefore we have the right to confidentiality regarding all aspects of our care.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

### **V Advance Directives**

i. My values for or against treatment are based on what is important to me at this time. Those who have the power to decide for me know these values too. If there is a conflict in value I know that they will respect my wishes.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

j. Our advance directives are followed when it comes to end of life care.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.

- Comment:

**VI Access to Information and Care**

**k.** We are entitled to see and to read our medical record, to obtain copies or summaries of this record or any test result, and to have our questions answered. Any medical record should be read only by those involved in our care or by individuals authorized by law or regulation. Others authorized by us may read the medical record only with our written consent or that of a legally authorized or designated representative.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

**L** We have the right to make our own decisions regarding the health care that is recommended by our physician. We may accept or refuse any recommended medical treatment.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

**m.** We are informed about the outcomes of diagnostic tests.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

**n.** A decision process is in place for people to use.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

**o.** We have the right to continuity of health care. If transfer to another facility is required, care is taken to see that the transfer is undertaken with great care. Most times if not always the person is accompanied by someone she knows and with whom she feels comfortable.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

p. Provision of care is guided by established policies and procedures. Policies should stir and sustain ethical reflection around the care that is given.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

q. Physical restraints are used here at times, and it bothers me to see this.

- This is true.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

**VII Review Mechanism: Having the Opportunity to Speak the Truth or “Complain”**

r. We have the right to voice complaints regarding care received, to have our complaints reviewed, and when possible, resolved.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

s. Health care professionals must respect the voice of the patient or her designated representative when ethical issues arise during the patients' care.

- This is true here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

**VIII Education on issues around Treatment request/refusal**

t. Education and information are essential to restoration to health. Thus we have the right to receive information from physicians and to discuss the benefits, risks, and costs of appropriate treatment alternatives. We may and should ask questions and dialogue with the physician as a trusted friend, counselor and co-journeyer. We have a right to receive guidance from our physicians as to the optimal course of action.

- This is a reality here.
- This needs attention here.
- Comment:

**Your Signature: (Optional)** \_\_\_\_\_