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**Advance Care Planning: Recent Books for Consumers
(Spring 2008)**

Schneiderman, Lawrence. ***Embracing Our Mortality: Hard Choices in an Age of Medical Miracles***. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.

Table of Contents: Putting in writing what you want (and don't want) – What may happen if you don't make it "clear and convincing" – Facts and statistics – Empathy and the imagination – Ancient myth and modern medicine: what can we learn from the past? – Hoping for a miracle – What could be wrong with hope? – Medical futility – Beyond futility to an ethic of care – Future decisions we may all have to make.

Burnell, George M.; Moon, Simon Young-suck. ***Freedom to Choose: How to Make End-of-life Decisions on Your Own Terms***. Amityville, NY: Baywood Publishing Company, 2008.

Table of Contents: What happened to Terri Schiavo? – Making the most important decision in your life – Knowing your rights as a patient – Choosing end-of-life care at home or in the hospital – Evaluating risks versus benefits of treatment: avoiding fatuous therapy – Advance directives: what are they? – Take the time to plan – Current laws you need to know for end-of-life planning – Selecting the best end-of-life care.

Doukas, David John; Reichel, William. ***Planning for Uncertainty: Living Wills and Other Advance Directives for You and Your Family***. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007.

Table of Contents: Introduction: what every person needs to know – What the Patient Self-Determination Act means to you – When is treatment beneficial and when is it not beneficial? – How ethical principles affect health care decisions – The value of values – How advance directives work – The Values History: defining your health care values.

Jasper, Margaret C. ***Health Care Directives***. Ferry, NY: Oceana Publications, 2007.

Table of Contents: The patient's right to participate in health care decisions – What is an advanced directive – The living will and durable power of attorney for health care – Landmark right-to-die cases – The Patient Self-determination Act – The Uniform Health Care Decisions Act – Physician assisted suicide – Anatomical donations.

Sitarz, Dan. ***Advance Health Care Directives Simplified***. Carbondale, IL: Nova Pub., 2007.

Cebuhar, Jo Kline. ***Last Things First, Just in Case . . . : The Practical Guide to Living Wills and Durable Powers of Attorney for Health Care***. West Des Moines, IA: Murphy Pub., 2006.

Table of Contents: Tense: past, present and future in the United States – Providing for your care and feeding when you're incapacitated – Protecting those who cannot protect themselves – End-of-life choices and making sure your wishes are respected.

Shannon, Joyce Brennfleck. ***Death and Dying Sourcebook: Basic Consumer Health Information About End-of-Life Care and Related Perspectives and Ethical Issues, Including End-of-Life Symptoms and Treatments, Pain Management, Quality-of-Life Concerns, the Use of Life Support, Patients' Rights and Privacy Issues, Advance Directives, Physician-Assisted Suicide, Caregiving, Organ and Tissue Donation, Autopsies, Funeral Arrangements, and Grief; Along with Statistical Data, Information About the Leading Causes of Death, a Glossary, and Directories of Support Groups and Other Resources***. Detroit, MI: Omnigraphics, 2006.

Table of Contents: End-of-life perspectives – Medical management of end-of-life symptoms – Medical decisions surrounding the end of life – End-of-life care facilities – End-of-life caregiving – Death and children: information for parents – Legal and economic issues at the end of life – Final arrangements – Mortality statistics – Additional help and information.

Colmer, Rebecca S.; Thomas, Todd. ***The Senior's Guide to End-of-Life Issues: Advance Directives, Wills, Funerals & Cremations***. Chelsea, MI: EKLETIKA Press, 2006.

Puchalski, Christina M. ***A Time for Listening and Caring: Spirituality and the Care of the Chronically Ill and Dying***. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Table of Contents: Spirituality, beliefs, ethics, presence, and relationship – Theological and religious perspectives – Application and tools – Patient stories and reflection – Protestant advance directives – Catholic advance directives – Jewish advance directives – Muslim advance directives.

President's Council on Bioethics (United States). ***Taking Care: Ethical Caregiving in Our Aging Society***. Washington, DC: President's Council on Bioethics, 2005.

Available on the Web at: http://www.bioethics.gov/reports/taking_care/index.html

Table of Contents: Dilemmas of an aging society – The limited wisdom of advance directives – The ethics of caregiving: general principles – Ethical caregiving: principle and prudence in hard cases – Conclusions and recommendations.

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