

What did you learn about Advanced Dementia, Natural Dying, and Living Wills?

Printed name: _____ Date: __/__/__

Did you answer these questions BEFORE [] or AFTER [] you sorted the My Way Cards? _____

1. T People with Advanced Dementia can rarely feed themselves.
2. T People with Advanced Dementia can rarely recognize family members.
3. **F** Advanced Dementia is a curable disease of the brain.
4. T People with Advanced Dementia can rarely communicate understandably with others.
5. T People with Advanced Dementia can rarely move around or walk by themselves.
6. **F** People with Advanced Dementia can rarely express any desire, such as wanting to drink.
7. T The cause of death with Natural Dying is usually “dehydration” (lack of water)—NOT “starvation” (lack of food).
8. T Natural Dying means that none of these treatments are provided: cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (DNR instead of CPR), dialysis, blood transfusions, or breathing machine.
9. T Natural Dying can be MORE comfortable than dying from untreated pneumonia.
10. **F** Natural Dying means NO medications at all, even those medications needed for comfort.
11. T A patient’s Living Will can describe in a specific way, the precise medical and/or mental condition that would make the patient want Natural Dying.
12. **F** If a sick patient gets to the point described in her Living Will that she wanted Natural Dying, she will be given NO food or fluid, even if she can eat & drink without another’s help.
13. **F** After a patient signs a Living Will and has his/her signature witnessed or notarized—the patient CANNOT change the Living Will—even if s/he can still make medical decisions.
14. **F** Patients can **either** A) fill out a Living Will; **or** B) appoint someone they know as their proxy who can make medical decisions for them in the future—but **not both**.
15. T Patients can change how much power they give their proxy to make decisions about their medical care—but ONLY if they are still able to make medical decisions.
16. T This is the reason Natural Dying is an important choice for Advanced Dementia: Patients might otherwise be forced to live for years in a state they feel is “worse than death” as they wait to get a medical illness they can die from, with NO “higher tech” treatment.