

Questions for the Person You Might Designate as Your Spokesperson

Your Spokesperson (“Agent”) may be required to speak for you in a variety of circumstances. These situations might include those in which your desires may not mesh with the opinions and beliefs of either your Spokesperson (“Agent”) or others concerned about your welfare.

Below are questions to discuss with the individual(s) you may be considering choosing as your Spokesperson (“Agent”). Discussing these questions with a potential Spokesperson (“Agent”) beforehand will help you feel confident that the person chosen for this function is the best one to speak for you when you cannot do so.

- Will you respect my wants and needs, even if they are different from what they used to be, or if you think they are unusual or foolish?
- If I cannot communicate for myself, will you make sure that what I have asked for is done, even if you would make different choices yourself?
- Will you talk with me openly and lovingly about any unfinished business between us and listen if I need to apologize or ask for forgiveness for anything that has hurt you in the past?
- Will you talk with me about my coming death – my fears, my sorrows, my joys and gratitude?
- Will you care for yourself so that you are not drained by my illness?
- Will you stay with me even if the going gets rough?
- Will you seek out information about my disease and what to expect as I get sicker and near the end of life?