

NAPN POLICY STATEMENT ON NUTRITION AND HYDRATION

WHEREAS nutrition and hydration are basic to the life and well-being of all human beings, and

AND WHEREAS these basics are not extraordinary medical treatment but a necessity which, at certain times in the life of every human being, must be provided for that person by another, and

AND WHEREAS the withholding of nutrition and hydration leads to death of that person,

AND WHEREAS provision of these needs of feeding and hydration is basic nursing care,

AND WHEREAS nurses may find themselves being asked to cooperate in the removal of feeding and hydration of a human being entrusted to their care,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association of Pro-life Nurses is adamantly opposed to the withdrawal of nutrition and hydration from those individuals entrusted in their care who are not in imminent danger of death and will strenuously defend any member of the nursing profession who refuses to be complicit in this action.

Adopted at general meeting October 27, 2000
Approved by general vote April, 2001