Supplemental Appendix: Survey Instrument

Scenarios:

1. You take a medication to treat high blood pressure and a side effect of the medication occurs that makes your tongue swell and interferes with your breathing. In order to avoid death, you need a breathing tube painlessly inserted into your mouth and windpipe that is attached to a machine that breathes for you while the swelling is treated; you will need the tube and the machine for about two days, and then you should be able to breathe on your own again.

2. You fall ill due to a respiratory infection that leads to respiratory failure. You need a breathing tube attached to a machine that breathes for you while your doctor treats your infection; you might need the tube and the machine for up to a month, and then you potentially would be able to breathe on your own again.

3. You lose brain function due to a massive stroke. You need a breathing tube painlessly inserted into your mouth and windpipe that is attached to a machine that breathes for you. You are transferred to the intensive care unit, and there is only small chance of recovery.

4. You suffer a massive heart attack that causes your heart to stop beating. You receive 'CPR' including: chest compressions, electric shocks delivered to your chest, and a breathing tube that is inserted into your mouth and windpipe and attached to a machine that breathes for you. You are transferred to the intensive care unit, and there is almost no hope of recovery.

Questions asked after each scenario:

1. Would you agree to this treatment, including the painless insertion of the breathing tube into your windpipe?

2. Would you want your doctor to try to use a breathing tube to help you for one week, if you do not improve it will be removed after that week - even if it means reversing a decision you made before you fell ill?

3. Would you agree to this treatment even if afterwards you needed your family to care for you for several years?

4. Would you want a breathing tube inserted and a machine to breathe for you just long enough so that your family could say goodbye - even if it means reversing a decision you made before you fell ill?

Final questions:

1. Have you signed a document, such as a DNR or DNR/DNI order, that reflects your end of life preferences?

2. My signed DNR or DNR/DNI document indicates that I would not want CPR or a breathing tube inserted and attached to a machine that breathes for me.