

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



The Ridgeway, London, NW7 1RN Telephone: 020 8906 2211

HIA:HSA May 2, 2013

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS

Re: Supporting our brothers regarding the blood issue

Dear Brothers:

Please find attached two documents, *Supporting Our Brothers With Their Stand on Blood—Checklist* and *When to Contact the HLC*. Please could each elder ensure that he has paper or PDF copies of these documents with him at all times in order to render effective assistance in any situation involving the blood issue.

May we also ask all elders to obtain a current list of contact details for your local Hospital Liaison Committee from our jw.org website. Having entered the site, from the menu options across the top of the page, select “Lookup.” In the left-hand column of the screen, under “Search For,” select “Contacts.” The “Contact Search” screen now appears and you need to select the drop-down menu within “Category.” Select “Hospital Liaison Committee,” then click “Search.” At the bottom of the list, click the box “Print All.” Please transfer some of these contact details to your mobile device under “HLC.” If contacting an HLC brother via email, please always use their HLC email address.

At your next quarterly meeting, please briefly review the reminders featured on the *Checklist*, ensuring that each elder has followed through with these important points. The congregation secretary should pay particular attention to whether the congregation has copies of *Advance Decision* documents for all your older publishers, perhaps asking field service group overseers to follow through as appropriate.—Proverbs 21:5.

Our *Advance Decision to Refuse Specified Medical Treatment* document remains an essential cornerstone for obtaining treatment without blood, especially in an emergency. Sadly, many of our brothers compromise their position by failing to complete their document or, if completed, by not carrying it on their person at all times. This is given special attention in the checklist. Shepherding assistance by the local elders, using the November 2006 *Our Kingdom Ministry* insert (available from jw.org), is often the most effective way to encourage our brothers to complete this document.

We trust your careful attention to and follow through with these documents will equip you to work closely with your local HLC in support of our brothers in their stand on this matter. We pray that Jehovah will bless your efforts to care for his people in this regard. Please be assured of our warm Christian affection.

Your brothers,

*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

Attachments (2)

PS to the secretary:

This letter should be retained in the congregation file along with other material relating to the Hospital Liaison Committee. Please retain a copy of the May 2, 2012 letter.