

SERIOUS ILLNESS CONVERSATION GUIDE

CLINICAL STEPS

CONVERSATION GUIDE



SETUP

THINKING IN ADVANCE
IS THIS OKAY?
COMBINED APPROACH
BENEFIT FOR PATIENT/FAMILY
NO DECISIONS TODAY



GUIDE (RIGHT COLUMN)



SUMMARIZE & CONFIRM



ACT

AFFIRM COMMITMENT
MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS
TO PATIENT
DOCUMENT CONVERSATION
PROVIDE PATIENT WITH
FAMILY COMMUNICATION GUIDE

UNDERSTANDING

What is your understanding now of where you are with your illness?

INFORMATION PREFERENCES

How much information about what is likely to be ahead with your illness would you like from me?

PROGNOSIS

SHARE PROGNOSIS, TAILORED TO INFORMATION PREFERENCES

GOALS

If your health situation worsens, what are your most important goals?

FEARS/WORRIES

What are your biggest fears and worries about the future with your health?

FUNCTION

What abilities are so critical to your life that you can't imagine living without them?

TRADE-OFFS

If you become sicker, how much are you willing to go through for the possibility of gaining more time?

FAMILY

How much does your family know about your priorities and wishes?



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