

Set Up

- Think together about what's important to you and your child
- Provide the right care now and in the future
- No decisions necessary today

Respond to Emotion

- Name the emotion:
This is frustrating.
- Explore hopes beyond cure: *What else are you hoping for?*

Focus on what can be done

- Maintain quality of life
- Prioritize comfort
- Allow a natural death
- Mitigate parent regret
- Identify hopes other than cure or extended life

OPEN THE CONVERSATION

I'd like to talk about how _____ is doing and where things might be going. Would that be OK?

ASSESS PROGNOSTIC AWARENESS

What is your **understanding** of _____'s illness/health?

What are your **hopes** right now for their health? *And what else?*

What are your **worries**? *And what else?*

SHARE WORRY

Would it be OK if we talked more about what may lie ahead?

TIME: I **hear** you're hoping for _____ **and I worry** _____ may get sicker in the coming hours/days/weeks/months/years (and may not survive).

FUNCTION: I **hear** you're hoping for _____ and I **worry** the decline we have seen is going to continue.

UNCERTAIN: It can be difficult to predict what will happen with _____'s health. I **hope** _____ and I'm **worried** _____. I think it is important to prepare for that possibility.

(PAUSE FOR SILENCE)

ALIGN

I **wish** we didn't have to worry about this.

EXPLORE WHAT'S IMPORTANT

What gives you **strength** as you navigate _____'s illness/health?

If _____'s health worsens, what becomes most important?

How aware are **family or friends** of what is happening?

MAKE A RECOMMENDATION

It sounds like _____ is very important.

Given what's important, I **recommend** ...

DOCUMENT YOUR CONVERSATION USING ACP MODULE