

Preparation

- Review prior serious illness conversations
- Seek input from PCP, specialists, SW, CM, chaplain, others
- Encourage RN attendance
- Engage family/caregivers

Introductory Statement

- Have you had any conversations with your primary care doctor or other doctor about your goals and wishes for your care or planning for the future?
- It's important that we have information about what matters most to you so we can best support you and your family. Would that be OK?

OPEN THE CONVERSATION

I'd like to talk about what is ahead with your illness. Would that be OK?

ASSESS PROGNOSTIC AWARENESS

What is your **understanding** of your illness?

Looking to the future, what are your **hopes** about your health?

What are your **worries**?

SHARE WORRY

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

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

TIME: I **hear** you're hoping for _____ and I **worry** something serious may happen in the next few (wks/mths/yrs).

ALIGN

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

EXPLORE WHAT'S IMPORTANT

If your health situation worsens, what is **most important** to you?

How much do your **family or friends** know about your priorities and wishes?

CLOSE THE CONVERSATION

It sounds like _____ is very important to you.

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

DOCUMENT YOUR CONVERSATION