🛄 Mass General Brigham

Set Up

- OK to check in?
- No decisions necessary today

Respond to Emotion

- Name This is frustrating.
- Understand I can't imagine how hard this is.
- Respect You have been so strong through this.
- Support We will figure this out together.
- Explore Tell me more.

MGB Serious Illness Conversation Guide

OPEN THE CONVERSATION

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

ASSESS PROGNOSTIC AWARENESS

What is your **understanding** of your health?

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

What are your worries? Tell me more.

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).

UNCERTAIN: It can be difficult to predict what will happen with your health. I **hope** ______ and I'm **worried** _____. I think it is

important to prepare for that possibility.

(Silence)

ALIGN

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

EXPLORE WHAT'S IMPORTANT

What gives you **strength** as you think about the future of your health? If your health worsens, what is **most important** to you? How much do your **family or friends** know about your priorities and wishes?

MAKE A RECOMMENDATION

It sounds like _____ is very important to you.

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

DOCUMENT YOUR CONVERSATION USING ACP MODULE

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