# 🛄 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

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