

## Serious Illness Conversation Guide (locally adapted)\*

<p><b>Set Up the conversation</b></p>	<p><i>"How are you feeling today?"</i></p> <p><i>"Is it okay if we talk together about your condition?"</i></p> <p><i>"I will be using a guide and taking notes during our talk in case I forget something." (Use if appropriate)</i></p>
<p><b>Assess understanding and information preferences</b></p>	<p><i>"What have you been told about your condition?"</i></p> <p><i>"What would you like to know about your condition?"</i></p>
<p><b>Share Prognosis</b> <i>(Use only if appropriate)</i></p>	<p><i>"I would like to tell/inform/share with you my understanding of where things are right now with your condition – is that okay?"</i></p> <p><b>Uncertain:</b> <i>"I hope that you will stay as well as possible for a long time and we will work towards that. It is also possible that your health could change quickly. I think it is important that we prepare for that possibility."</i></p> <p><b>Time (for doctors only):</b> <i>"I wish this was not the case. It is also possible that time may be as short as ____ (express as a range, e.g. days to weeks, weeks to months, months to a year)."</i></p> <p><b>Function:</b> <i>"I hope you will feel as well as possible for a long time, and we will work towards that. It is also possible that your _____ (e.g. strength/energy-level/alertness/abilities to do daily activities) may be affected."</i></p>
<p><b>Explore Values</b></p>	<p><b>Priorities (now):</b> <i>"What are your most important priorities now?"</i></p> <p><b>Priorities (future):</b> <i>"If your health gets worse, what are your most important priorities?"</i></p> <p><b>Worries:</b> <i>"What are your biggest worries?"</i></p> <p><b>Sources of strengths:</b> <i>"What gives you strength living with your condition?"</i></p> <p><b>Critical abilities: (early in trajectory):</b> <i>"What activities bring joy and meaning to your life?"</i></p> <p><b>Critical abilities: (late in trajectory):</b> <i>Given your condition, what activities would you like to continue doing?"</i></p> <p><b>Trade-offs:</b> <i>"If your condition gets worse, how much more treatment/interventions are you willing to go through for the possibility of living longer?" (give e.g. ICU/dialysis/surgery/feeding tubes/ more tests etc.)</i></p> <p><b>Family/ Social Support:</b> <i>"Are people closest to you aware of what is important to you?"</i></p>
<p><b>Close conversation</b></p> <p><b>Recommend</b></p>	<p><i>"I've heard you say that _____ is important to you."</i></p> <p><i>"Keeping that in mind, and what we know about your condition, let's make the best of this situation."</i></p> <p><i>"I recommend that we _____."</i></p> <p><i>"This will help us make sure that your treatment/care plans reflect what's important to you."</i></p> <p><i>"Is this plan ok to you?"</i></p> <p><i>"If you think of anything else later, we can revisit this conversation another time."</i></p>

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