

# Serious Illness Conversation Guide

## VALUES-BASED RECOMMENDATIONS: WISH TOOL

CLOSE

"I've heard you say that \_\_\_ is really important to you and you are hoping for \_\_\_. **Did I get that right?**"  
 "Keeping that in mind, and what we know about your [health], **may I make a recommendation?**"  
 "I **recommend** that we \_\_\_." [Use WISH framework below to outline next steps.]

<h3>WELLBEING</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Make a plan to support:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Your goal of _____ (life event)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Your pursuit of _____ (hobby, passion)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Your concern about _____</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Connect you with*:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Social Worker/Spiritual Care</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Psychiatrist/Psychologist</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Palliative Care Team</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Patient Advocate</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Financial Counseling</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<h3>ILLNESS</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Revisit your treatment plan</b> and discuss whether or not to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Start/stop/continue a treatment(s).</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Address your symptom(s)</b> of _____</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Consult with a specialist*</b> and/or invite a team member to the next conversation.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>[If in line with values] Consider shifting the focus of care</b> to prioritize your comfort. [Discuss hospice services if applicable].</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Revisit this conversation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> In _____ days/weeks/months</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> If your health/quality of life changes.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<h3>SUPPORT SYSTEM</h3> <p>(Family, friends, faith community etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Share information</b> (prognosis, goals, priorities, wishes) with support system.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Include your support system</b> in future appointments/discussions/decision making.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Explore community resources* for</b> _____</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Schedule a meeting*</b> with a Social Worker for you and/or your support person(s).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</li> </ul>	<h3>HEALTH DIRECTIVES &amp; DOCUMENTATION</h3> <p>(Advance Directive, POLST, EHR note etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Complete important document(s):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> POLST/MOLST</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Advance Directive</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare Agent/Medical POA</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>I can communicate your wishes by:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Writing a note in your health record.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sharing information w/ team members.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Meeting w/ legal decision maker(s) etc.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

CLOSE

"This helps us make sure your care reflects **what's important to you.**"  
 "How does this **plan seem to you?**"  
 "**Thank you** for joining me in this conversation. I will do everything I can to **support you** through this."

\*Not all resources are available everywhere. Know your local/system resources and offer support while not overpromising.

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