# The CARES Toolkit End-of-Life Cases and Resources:

An Interprofessional Toolkit for Health Science Students

Case Study

Case Title

## Case Summary

Encounter Setting
Ex. Community site, home, clinic, ED, hospital, assisted living, long-term care nursing home
Ex. Community site, home, clinic, ED, hospital, assisted living, long-term care nursing home  Context / Reason for Encounter

Ex. Background/sets the stage; include cultural beliefs/perspectives, ADLs/IADLs, suicide ideation or risk of

# **Demographics** Gender Age or Date of Birth **Ethnicity Living Situation** Ex. Living in house/apartment/mobile home/homeless (unhoused), number of people in home, do they feel safe at home or in neighborhood, primary language/languages spoken at home **Patient Occupation**

### **Insurance Coverage Status**

Family / Caregiver Issues
One or more caregivers, family caregivers, paid caregiver, etc.
Social History
Social Economic Status
Social Determinants of Health
Ex. Food or housing or transportation insecurity; utility need; financial resources; childcare; education employment instability; legal resources; social isolation; health literacy
Social / Mental Health Wellbeing
Religious / Spiritual Considerations
Cultural Beliefs / Perspectives

# Patient Health Information

History of Present Illness
Illness Course / Treatment Information
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Physical Exam	
Medications / Treatments	
Allergies / Intolerances	
Tobacco, Alcohol, or Substance Abuse	

Review of Systems
Include mobility, cognition, mood; do they need assistive devices? Does living environment impact mobility?
Past Medical History
Include alternative medicine preferences; cultural perspectives
Family History

# Health & Community Services

Is the Patient Currently Receiving or Will They Need Any New Home and/or Community-Based Services?

Community-Based Services?
Healthcare Services: Eligibility / Enrollment / Contact Information
Community Services: Eligibility / Enrollment / Contact Information

Overall Assessment	
Advance Care Planning	

Please provide details/scenario about serious illness or end-of-life conversations with the patient, family and/or providers; and indicate if the patient has any Advance Directives on file



What Do They Want Their Health For?

# What matters most?

# **Next Steps / Outcomes**

What Happens Next?
Details About Family Conversations
What Happens at, or Near, Death of Patient?
What Support Does Family Need Before and After Death of Patient?

# **Challenging Conversations**

Best / Worst Case
Risk / Benefit of Intervention

# Interprofessional Focus

What Role Do Other Disciplines Play in This Patient's End-of-Life Care?
Who Can Help You Provide the Best Care and Honor the Patient's Wishes?
How Will You Approach Utilizing a Team Approach to Providing Care?
Beyond Referrals, How Will You Become Comfortable with Going Outside Your Comfort Zone?
Are there any Integrative, Traditional, or Complementary Therapies that will Help the Patient at this Stage or Later?

## **Questions to Consider**

Can You Identify Any Overarching Bias?
Can You Identify Any Possible Assumptions One Might Make About This Patient?
What Information About This Patient Might Inform Public Policy or Regulatory Action?

#### **Indicate 3-5 Teaching Points in this Case**

#### **ADVANCE CARE DIRECTIVE**

Teaching point: Each health science student should be

- knowledgeable about advance care directives; and
- be able to communicate and engage patients/families in advance care planning across settings and across the lifespan.

#### PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE

Teaching point: Each health science student should be

- knowledgeable about palliative care and hospice and
- be able to effectively communicate this information to patients/families.

#### CULTURAL HUMILITY

Teaching point: Each health science student should be

- knowledgeable about knowledgeable about cultural considerations in the care of patients and families, and
- be able to effectively communicate with humility, curiosity, care, respect, & dignity.

#### COMMUNITY RESOURCES

**Teaching point:** Each health science student should be

- knowledgeable about community resources to support serious illness and end of life care, and
- be able to effectively connect patients/families with these resources.

#### CHALLENGING CONVERSATIONS

Teaching point: Each health science student should be

- knowledgeable about how to deliver "best case/worse case" and
- be able to effectively conduct challenging conversations with patients/ families (including how to discuss risk/benefits of interventions).

#### **INTERPROFESSIONAL CARE**

Teaching point: Each health science student should be

- knowledgeable about the role of team members & benefits of team-based care and
- be able to effectively work with team members in the care of patients/ families with serious illness or at the end of life.