



HOSPICE Guidelines



END-STAGE CANCER

Guidelines for End-Stage Cancer and Related Disorders

LIFE LIMITING CONDITION AS EVIDENCED BY:

- Documentation of clinical progression of disease evidenced by:
 - Physician assessment
 - Laboratory studies
 - Radiologic or other studies
 - Multiple ER visits
 - Inpatient hospitalizations

AND/OR

- PPS 70% or less
- Dependence in 3 or 6 Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) such as bathing, dressing, feeding, transferring, continence, ambulation;
- Unintentional, progressive weight loss of 10% of total body weight over the past 6 months;
- Serum albumin <2.5gm/dl (*may be helpful prognostic indicator but should not be considered alone*)

GENERAL INDICATORS:

- Patient/family desires no further aggressive medical intervention including acute care hospitalization;
- Progressive symptoms despite medical intervention and evidence of decline medically documented such as:
 - Increasing tumor mass
 - Recurrence of disease;
 - Stage of tumor
 - Failure or declination of chemotherapy/radiation.
- Has diagnosed and medically documented metastatic disease;
- Increased weakness or impairment in mobility;
- Active co-morbidity accelerating the trajectory of the terminal illness.

Would you be surprised by this patient's death within the next six months?



Big Bend Hospice
1723 Mahan Center Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32308
(850) 878.5310
www.bigbendhospice.org

24-HOUR ACCESS | 850.878.5310

REFERRALS/ADMISSIONS | 850.878.5310 | 800.772.5862 | 850.701.1340 | FAX 850.878.4483