



HOSPICE Guidelines



DEMENTIA

Guidelines for End-Stage Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders

THE PATIENT IS SEVERELY DEMENTED

- Recent decline in functional status:
 - PPS < 50%
 - Dependence in 3 of 6 ADLS such as bathing, dressing, feeding, transfers, continence & ambulation.
- Unintentional, progressive weight loss of 10% over the past 6 months.
- Symptomatic condition or secondary conditions as evidenced by:
 - Ability to speak is limited to 6 intelligible words or fewer in the course of a day or an intensive interview.
 - Unable to consistently or reliably make their needs known.

THE PATIENT HAS HAD ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING MEDICAL COMPLICATIONS RELATED TO DEMENTIA DURING THE PAST YEAR

- Aspiration pneumonia.
- Upper urinary tract infection.
- Decubitus ulcers, multiple stage 3-4.
- Fever recurrent after antibiotics.
- Inability or unwillingness to take food or fluids sufficient to sustain life; not a candidate for feeding tube or parenteral nutrition.
- Comorbid or other event indicating high probability of death in six months.

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



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