

Palliative Care Criteria – Consider the following criteria when determining the palliative care score of this patient

1. Basic Disease Process - Score 2 points EACH Score _____

- a. Cancer (Stage 3 or greater)
- b. Advanced COPD
- c. Stroke (with Palliative Performance Scale PPS<40, see attached Table 3)
- d. End stage renal disease
- e. Advanced cardiac disease – i.e., CHF (with decreased severe CAD, CM (LVEF < 25%)
- f. Advanced dementia(FAST>7A, see Table 1 below) with PPS<40 (see Table 3)
- g. Other life-limiting illness

2. Concomitant Disease Processes- Score 1 point overall Score _____

- a. Liver disease
- b. Moderate renal disease
- c. Moderate COPD
- d. Moderate congestive heart failure
- e. Other condition complicating cure (see Table 2)

3. Functional status of patient - Score as specified below Score _____

Use Palliative Performance Scale(PPS)-Table 3

- PPS >60: Restricted in physically strenuous activity but ambulatory and able to carry out work of a light or sedentary nature, e.g., light housework, office work. Score 0
- PPS 50: Ambulatory and capable of all self-care but unable to carry out any work activities. Up and about more than 50% of waking hours. Score 1
- PPS 40: Capable of only limited self-care; confined to bed or chair more than 50% of waking hours. Score 2
- PPS 30: Completely disabled. Cannot carry on any self-care. Totally confined to bed or chair. Score 3

4. Other criteria to consider in screening - Score 1 point EACH Score _____

The patient:

- a. has unacceptable level of pain > 24 hours _____
- b. has uncontrolled symptoms, progressive weight loss (i.e., nausea, vomiting, anorexia) _____
- c. has uncontrolled psychosocial or spiritual issues _____
- d. has frequent visits to the Emergency Department (> 1 x mo for same diagnosis) _____
- e. Hospitalization: (Readmission within last 30 days OR 3 or more hospitalizations within past 6 months) _____
- f. Screened positive for Palliative Care Referral during recent hospital admission(within last 2 months) _____
- g. Is not a candidate for curative therapy _____
- h. Has a life-limiting illness and chosen not to have life-prolonging therapy _____

TOTAL SCORE _____

SCORING GUIDELINES:

TOTAL SCORE = 4; Discuss goals of care & give patient Palliative Care information brochure;

TOTAL SCORE = 5; Discuss goals of care & give patient Palliative Care information brochure, & Consider Palliative Care consult;

TOTAL SCORE = 6; Discuss goals of care & give patient Palliative Care information brochure, Palliative Care Consult recommended (requires provider orders)

HOSPICE REFERRAL TRIGGER:

Would you be surprised if this patient died within the next 6 months? YES / NO

If NO, consider Hospice referral

Table 1.

Functional Assessment Staging (FAST) Scale for People With Alzheimer Disease (AD)^{15,18}

Stage	Level of Functioning	Clinical Diagnosis
1	No decrement	“Normal” adult
2	Subjective deficit in word finding	Normal-aged adult
3	Deficit in demanding employment settings	Compatible with incipient AD
4	Assistance required in complex tasks (eg, handling finances, marketing, planning dinner for guests)	Mild AD
5	Assistance required in choosing proper clothing	Moderate AD
6a	Assistance required in putting on clothing	Moderately severe AD
6b	Assistance required in bathing properly	
6c	Assistance required with the mechanics of toileting (eg, flushing, wiping)	
6d	Urinary incontinence	
6e	Fecal incontinence	
7a	Speech ability limited to approximately a half-dozen intelligible words	Severe AD
7b	Intelligible vocabulary limited to a single word	
7c	Ambulatory ability lost	
7d	Ability to sit up lost	
7e	Ability to smile lost	
7f	Ability to hold up head lost	

Table 2: Disease states and corresponding poor prognostic indicators:

<i>Cancer:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – multiple metastases to the brain, liver, or lung – refractory hypercalcemia – ongoing bleeding from tumour, or bone marrow failure without transfusions
<i>CHF:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – hemodynamic failure requiring inotropic support – progressive renal insufficiency – repeated hospital admissions
<i>Renal Failure:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – discontinuation of dialysis – severe hyperkalemia without treatment
<i>COPD:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – respiratory failure
<i>Misc:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – sepsis in a frail, bedridden patient – any condition causing coma where fluids are not given (e.g. massive CVA, post-resuscitative hypoxic encephalopathy)

Table 3: Palliative Performance Scale

PALLIATIVE PERFORMANCE SCALE (PPS)								
%	Ambulation	Activity level Evidence of disease	Self-care	Intake	Level of consciousness	Estimated median survival in days (a) (b) (c)		
100	Full	Normal No disease	Full	Normal	Full	NA	NA	108
90	Full	Normal Some disease	Full	Normal	Full			
80	Full	Normal with effort Some disease	Full	Normal or reduced	Full			
70	Reduced	Can't do normal job or work Some disease	Full	As above	Full	145		
60	Reduced	Can't do hobbies or housework Significant disease	Occasional assistance needed	As above	Full or confusion	29	4	
50	Mainly sit/lie	Can't do any work Extensive disease	Considerable assistance needed	As above	Full or confusion	30	11	41
40	Mainly in bed	As above	Mainly assistance	As above	Full or drowsy or confusion	18	8	
30	Bed bound	As above	Total care	Reduced	As above	8	5	
20	Bed bound	As above	As above	Minimal	As above	4	2	6
10	Bed bound	As above	As above	Mouth care only	Drowsy or coma	1	1	
0	Death							