Hospice Indicator
Quick Reference Guide

As with any disease process, there are indicators to help you assess the situation and maximize the benefits of hospice care for your patients. Our staff is just a phone call away 24/7 for admissions and consultation.

Call Angela Hospice if your patient is experiencing any of the following disease progression or quality of life factors:

**Disease Progression**
- Decline/decrease in ADLs or functioning abilities
- Weight loss, decreased appetite, or refusal to eat
- Decline/decrease in cognitive abilities
- Observable decline in overall status
- Use of medications without symptom relief

**Quality of Life Factors**
- Repeated trips to the hospital & ER
- A recent change in “DNR” status
- Patient/family requests comfort care only
- Curative options no longer available or appropriate
Your patient may be appropriate for hospice if they have one or more of the following Disease Related Indicators:

**Alzheimer’s & Parkinson’s**
- Level 7-C on Fast scale (incontinent, unable to communicate intelligently or ambulate)
- History of frequent infections or skin breakdown
- Difficulty swallowing/weight loss ≥ 10% over several months

**Cardiac**
- Oxygen dependent/shortness of breath at rest
- Ejection fraction < 20%
- Secondary organ failure
- If CHF: peripheral edema/ascites
- If ASCVD: history of angina/MIs

**COPD/Lung Disease**
- Shortness of breath at rest/oxygen dependent
- Medications do not provide symptom relief
- Elevated PCO2 > 50 mm Hg.
- Increased frequency and severity of infections

**Liver Disease**
- Jaundice, ascites and edema
- Enlarged liver with significantly abnormal liver enzymes
- Albumin < 2.5

**End-Stage Diabetes**
- Unstable blood sugars/frequent changes
- Severe vascular insufficiencies/wounds/ulcers
- Frequent infections
- Requires considerable assistance with ADLs

**Neurological**
- Continuous decline in clinical or functional status over time
- Large volume cranial hemorrhage on CT/large area infarcts

**Renal Failure**
- BUN/creatinine significantly elevated

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www.AskForAngela.com