

Talking About Hospice Care With Your Family

- What do you value most about your life?
- If you were diagnosed with an illness that could not be cured, would you still want to pursue every possible treatment, realizing that some could negatively affect your quality of life?
- Do you imagine wanting to stop curative efforts if they were to be unsuccessful?
- If you were unable to eat or drink due to a terminal illness, would you want artificial nutrition and hydration even if it could cause complications and might not help you live longer?
- Understanding Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) could result in broken bones and other medical problems, would you want it if you were dying from an illness and were extremely frail?
- If you could not breathe on your own, would you want mechanical ventilation?
- How do you feel about an extended hospitalization, nursing homes?
- Do you want to die in your home?
- How much pain is acceptable to you?
- Would you want to be pain free even if it meant trading comfort for wakefulness or alertness?
- Do you want to be with your family when you die?
- What decisions regarding care do you want to entrust to others and who do you want to designate to make decisions?
- Have you shared your care preferences with that person and taken necessary steps to ensure he/she is recognized as a proxy?
- Do you want a funeral, memorial service or obituary?
- What would you want a service to be like, for example, what music would you want at your funeral or memorial service if you had one?
- Would you want your body to be buried, cremated, donated to science?
- If you had organs that could be donated to help others or science, would you want to do that?
- What do you hope for most regarding your death or the death of a loved one?