

Alzheimer's Disease

The patient has both 1 and 2:

1. Stage VII or beyond according to the [Functional Assessment Staging Scale \(FAST\)](#) with *all* of the following:
 - Inability to ambulate without assistance
 - Inability to dress without assistance
 - Urinary and fecal incontinence, intermittent or constant
 - No consistent meaningful/reality-based verbal communication; stereotypical phrases or the ability to speak is limited to a few intelligible words.

AND

2. Has had at least one (1) of the following conditions within the past twelve (12) months:
 - Aspiration pneumonia
 - Pyelonephritis or other upper urinary tract infection
 - Septicemia
 - Decubitus ulcers, Multiple and/or Stage 3-4
 - Fever, recurrent after antibiotics
 - Inability to maintain sufficient fluid and caloric intake demonstrated by either of the following:
 - i. 10% weight loss during the previous six (6) months

OR

- ii. Serum albumin <2.5gm/dl

In the absence of one or more of these findings, rapid decline or comorbidities may also support eligibility for hospice care.

