

TRIGGERS FOR SUPPORTIVE CARE

Inpatient / Outpatient

During your interdisciplinary huddles/rounds in the inpatient or outpatient setting, please voice any identified concerns so the medical team can address it in real time and involve supportive care as appropriate.

UNCONTROLLED SYMPTOMS

- Pain
- Nausea
- Constipation
- Air hunger
- Poor sleep

BEHAVIORAL MANAGEMENT

- Agitation/violent behavior
- Non-adherence to medical requests requiring a behavioral plan
- Disruptive pattern of interacting (demonstrated by patient or family) that interferes with the ability to provide care

END OF LIFE

- Actively dying patients
- End-of-life situation

MENTAL/COGNITIVE/SUBSTANCE CONCERNS

- Homicidality/suicidality
- Concern for alcohol or other substance withdrawal
- Severe anxiety and depression
- Therapeutic management of mental health issues impacting treatment
- Patient and/or caregiver problems in coping
- Delirium/Altered mental status/
+ confusion assessment method (CAM) screen

DECISION MAKING

- Questionable capacity to make a specific decision
- Assistance in addressing cases of limited treatment options and near futility
- Assistance with conflict resolution regarding goals or methods of treatment:
 - Within families
 - Between staff and families
 - Among treatment teams
- Assistance needed to transition to supportive and comfort care

SPIRITUAL AND RELIGIOUS SUPPORT

Listen for words/phrases/ideas that indicate need for spiritual/religious support for either patient or caregiver(s):

- **Angry** at God (higher power)
- **Unfair** - **why** my child...? (husband, wife, etc.)
- I'm praying for **miracle**
- I feel **abandoned** by God
- How could a loving God let bad things happen to good people?
- I don't have peace
- No longer believe in God
- Life does not have meaning anymore
- I'm losing control

CHILD LIFE SUPPORT

- Any child ages 4-17 (including parenting education for < 4 years old)
- Environment preparation
- Caregiver support and education
- Education and support for disease, transition of care, procedures, surgery and end of life