



*Adding Life to Each  
and Every Day*



## NON-CANCER DIAGNOSIS REFERRAL GUIDE

### ALS

- Significant decline in function
- Rapid progression of ALS
- Affected respiratory status
- Secondary conditions such as weight loss or recurrent infections

### HEART DISEASE

- Patient is symptomatic despite maximum medical management with diuretics and vasodilators
- Shortness of breath with minimal activity
- Significant symptoms of recurrent CHF at rest

### HIV/AIDS

- CD4+ count  $<25$  OR viral load  $>100,000$
- Not responding to treatment
- Weight loss
- Comorbid conditions
- Decreased performance status

### LIVER DISEASE

- PT  $>5$  over ctrl or INR  $>1.5$
- Serum albumin  $<2.5$
- Secondary conditions such as:
  - Jaundice and/or ascites
  - Peritonitis
  - Hepatorenal syndrome
  - Hepatic encephalopathy
  - Recurrent variceal bleeding

## NEUROLOGICAL DISEASE

(Alzheimer's/Dementia)

- Limited verbal communication
- Limited ability to walk
- Functional decline
- Comorbid or secondary conditions
- Weight loss during the last 6 months

## PULMONARY DISEASE

- Disabling dyspnea at rest
- Increased hospitalization or ER visits
- Unintentional weight loss
- Progression of end stage pulmonary disease
- Hypoxemia on room air
- Hypercapnia

## RENAL DISEASE

- Patient is no longer receiving dialysis
- Creatinine clearance <10cc/min
- Serum creatinine >8.0 mg/dl
- Not a candidate for transplant

## STROKE OR COMA

Stroke

- Unable to bathe/dress without assistance
- Weight loss
- Serum Albumin <2.5 gm/dl
- Current history of pulmonary aspiration
- Food and fluid intake is reduced

Coma

*Any 3 of the following on day 3 of coma*

- Abnormal brainstem response
- Absent verbal response
- Absent withdrawal response to pain
- Serum creatinine >1.5 mg/dl

**HOSPICE**  
home care



**CALL TOLL-FREE**

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