



Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association
Association canadienne de soins palliatifs



Family Care Conference Question Prompt Sheet

After reviewing the Comfort Care Booklet, you may have questions to discuss at your upcoming Family Care Conference. Check off any questions below that you would like to ask, and feel free to jot down your own questions to bring.





Prompts

- Can you tell me more about palliative care for people with dementia?
- What changes in symptoms or behaviours can I still expect?
- If unpleasant symptoms such as pain or shortness of breath cannot be managed, what options are available so my family/friend is less aware of his/her discomfort?
- What information can I give you about my family member/friend, so you can provide appropriate and quality care?
- What role might family/friends be expected to play in decision making, such as deciding whether or not to transfer our friend/relative to hospital or change medication?
- Is it possible to record end-of-life care wishes? How often are end-of-life care wishes reviewed?

- Can you tell me what 'comfort care' means?
- Can you tell me how much time is left?
- Can you warn family/friends when death is near?
- Can my family member/friend be admitted into a hospice?
- I would like to talk about how my family member/friend would want to be cared for. When can I discuss this and with whom?
- Can you arrange for me to talk with someone from my culture who may understand me better?
- Can someone help me communicate with other family members/friends about what is happening?
- What can be done to ensure my family member/friend has a positive end-of-life care experience?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of resuscitation?
- What spiritual or religious care is available to us?
- Is it feasible for my family member/friend to die at home?
- What can family/friends do during and after the moment of death?
- What is the best way to communicate needs, concerns, and questions to the staff?



- How can I make arrangements to meet with the doctor?
- Is it possible for me to see someone else if I don't get along with the nurse or doctor? How do I go about this?
- What are the worst days going to be like, and what are the best days going to be like?
- Can you alleviate symptoms and provide some comfort?
- How do we ensure incontinence does not affect dignity?
- My loved one has dementia but also other medical conditions. How might this affect their care at the end-of-life?

- What might the final days and hours of my family member/friend's life look like?
- Who can help me sit up with my dying family member/friend? Are there volunteers we can call in?
- What if my family member/friend dies when I am not there?
- If we decide not to prolong life, what might some of our options be?
- If things become worse for my family member/friend, can we explore ways to hasten death?
- What are some alternatives to medication that can be provided?

Contact Us

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SPA-LTC
Strengthening a Palliative Approach
in Long-Term Care



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