

A photograph of a sunflower field at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The sunflowers are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others still budding. The background is a soft, hazy sky.

Early Integration of Palliative Care

The Algorithm

STEP 3: PLAN/MANAGE

Presentation #6

PEI Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Program

Health PEI

One Island Health System

What will you learn?



At the end of this presentation, you'll have an understanding of:

1. Identifying symptoms and needs using symptom guides
2. Using PPSv2 to prompt care planning
3. Introducing Advance Care Planning (ACP) to patients
4. Introducing Goals of Care (GOC) to patients
5. When to hold ACP conversations
6. Resources provided by the Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Program

Step 1: Identify

Ask the Surprise Question

Would you be surprised if the patient were to die in the next 6-12 months?

NO

Unsure

Yes

General Indicators of Decline?

Disease Specific Indicators?

Has the patient indicated **preference, decision or need** for comfort care?

Reassess regularly

Minimal/No

Yes

Step 2: Assess

Symptoms

Performance Status

Understanding of Patient/family

Step 3: Plan/Manage

Advance Care Planning

PPS \geq 70

PPS \leq 50

Symptom Management

End of Life Care Planning/
Goals of Care
Refer to P-IPCP

STEP 3: PLAN/MANAGE – SYMPTOMS



- ❑ Promptly manage identified symptoms and needs through use of symptom guides:
 - BC Guidelines <http://www.bc-cpc.ca/cpc/symptom-management-guidelines/>
 - Pallium Pocketbook e-Book available www.pallium.ca/resource-app

STEP 3: PLAN/MANAGE – SYMPTOMS

MEDICATION TRACKER



NAME _____

DOB _____

PHN _____



PAIN MANAGEMENT

My Long Acting Medication is: _____

My Breakthrough Pain Medication is: _____

Date: _____

There are three simple goals for pain management;

- A good nights sleep
- Pain control during the day while at rest and
- Pain control when they are active and ambulatory

A breakthrough medication is one you take when your regular medication isn't quite enough. It can also be taken when planning an activity that you know may induce pain (this type of pain is called "incident pain").


Continuous pain requires continuous pain medication: your doctor may consider prescribing regular doses rather than just "as needed" doses.

CHART BREAKTHROUGH USE HERE

	0:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
MON																								
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STEP 3: PLAN/MANAGE - CARE PLANNING

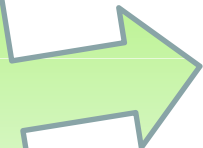
- 
- Use functional status to prompt care planning and assess needs in home/community
 - If PPSv2 is ≥ 70 (**ECOG** ≤ 2), then engage in ACP with patient and their substitute decision-maker (*Identify Proxy...*)
 - If PPSv2 is ≤ 50 (**ECOG** ≥ 3), EOL care planning with patient and their SDM and think about referral to Home Care Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Program (*particularly if there is a wish to remain home or die at home*)

STEP 3: PLAN/MANAGE - ACP



- Introduce the topic of ACP
- First, focus on: **“who will make decisions for you if you are incapable of making those decisions yourself?”** This will help identify a Proxy(ies). Record the Proxy(ies) in the Health Care Directive (HCD).
- Refer patients to the Speak Up: Advance Care Planning Workbook - PEI Edition to help them explore their values and wishes. See www.advancecareplanningpei.ca
- Think about making a separate appointment to discuss ACP (**after they reviewed website or material**). Ask your patient to bring their SDM/Proxy(ies) to that appointment. Allow time for reflection and decision-making (GOC/HCD).
- Record values and wishes within a HCD. **Make sure you, the patient and their SDM/Proxy(ies) have copies.**
- Ensure there is a copy in your chart (Green Sleeve)
- Fax copy to Home Care IPCP if they are involved or when you make a referral.

Record Proxy(ies) on Page 2 Health Care Directive



Name of proxy 1 • Nom du 1 ^{er} mandataire		Telephone • Téléphone
Address • Adresse		
City • Ville	Province	Postal Code • Code postal

Name of proxy 2 • Nom du 2 ^e mandataire		Telephone • Téléphone
Address • Adresse		
City • Ville	Province	Postal Code • Code postal

4. My proxies shall act • Mes mandataires agiront :
- Successively (second proxy decides if first proxy not available) • Successivement (le second mandataire décide si le premier n'est pas disponible)
 - Jointly (make decisions together) • Conjointement (prendront les décisions ensemble)
5. If the person(s) I have appointed is (are) unable to act, I appoint the following person to act as my proxy • Si la (les) personne(s) que j'ai nommée(s) est (sont) incapable(s) d'agir, je nomme la personne suivante pour agir comme mon mandataire :

Name of alternate proxy • Nom du mandataire suppléant		Telephone • Téléphone
Address • Adresse		
City • Ville	Province	Postal Code • Code postal

6. I give my proxy(ies) the authority to make any health care decisions for me that I am not capable of making for myself, subject to the instructions contained in this document. • Je donne à mon (mes) mandataire(s) l'autorité de prendre toute décision au sujet de mes soins de santé que je suis incapable de prendre pour moi-même, sous réserve des instructions contenues dans le présent document.

STEP 3: PLAN/MANAGE - GOC



- ❑ GOC discussions should complement ACP and should be directed at preferences around specific clinical interventions
- ❑ Consider the following checklist:
 - Always verify consent for treatment as events develop
 - Consider consult or referral to palliative care for complex management issues (i.e. expected need for palliative sedation for severe SOB)
 - Facilitate communication when there is a transfer to a new setting (i.e. fax GOC and HCD forms to facilities)

STEP 3: PLAN/MANAGE - EOL Planning



- Discuss and document GOC with patient and family, if not done already
- **Revisit ACP** and discuss treatment withdrawal or withholding as frequently as needed **when condition changes (frequently, patients don't agree to a "DNR" before they feel the end is very near!)**
- Screen for specific EOL psychosocial/cultural issues for patient and family (**wishes, coping skills, is there enough family members to provide care in the home?**)
- Identify if patient could benefit from specialized palliative care services or require home care services in the home (**IPCP**)
- Home Care IPCP nurses will proactively help you develop a plan for Expected Death in the Home (**EDITH**) and ensure timely access to **"PEI terminal drug kit"** if needed for a home death
- **Plan for Home Care P-IPCP early**, ensuring proper resources are in place; particularly if you are planning a home death

STEP 3: PLAN/MANAGE - Consult/Referrals

☐ Resources to support patients and families.

Connect with the P-IPCP to access support if needed:

- P-IPCP (PPSv2 \leq 50/ECOG \geq 2)
- Nutrition/Dietitian
- Physical/Occupational Therapy
 - Walker/commode/hospital beds
- Spiritual Services/Clergy
 - Dignity therapy
- Social Work
 - Help with GOC/counselling/caregiver support
- Home Support Services
 - Respite
- Other Community Support Services
 - Meals-on-Wheels
- Hospice PEI
 - Volunteers



Critical Importance of Communication

Six key components

1. Talking with patients in an honest and straightforward way.
2. Willing to talk about dying: Not abandoning/avoiding the dying patient.
3. Giving bad news in a sensitive way: Balancing being realistic with maintaining hope.
4. Listening to patients.
5. Encouraging questions.
6. Sensitive to patients readiness to talk about death.



Weinrich et al. Communicating with dying patients within the spectrum of medical care from terminal diagnosis. AIM 2001; 161: 868-874; Curtis, J Gen Intern Med 2000; 16:41

When to Hold ACP Conversations

- ❑ Patients often give you an opening...
- ❑ Patient history form/intake assessment
- ❑ Annually for all adults: “I talk with all my patients about this and we talked a little about this last year...”
- ❑ Part of chronic disease management: “Hope for the best but plan for the worst...” “This illness can have a fairly predictable (or fairly unpredictable) course...here are some things you need to think about ahead of time...”
- ❑ Following emergency department/hospital admissions: “I understand you have been in the hospital. What did the doctors say?”
- ❑ An Advance Care Plan ensures that the patient's wishes would be listened to no matter who is present

<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-pei/advance-care-planning>

You will be a better communicator if you...

- Assess understanding:** “What you understand about your illness and what is going on right now?”
 - What are some of your worries as your disease progresses?
 - What are your biggest fears?
- Assess informational needs:** “Are you the kind of person who wants to know all the details about your illness or just an outline?”
- Assess decision-making style:** “Do you like to make decisions on your own or as a family?”

Use the serious illness conversation guide!

Serious Illness Conversation Guide

<p>Clinician Steps</p> <p>Set Up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Thinking in advance •Is this Okay •Hope for the best, prepare for the worst •Benefit for patient/family •No decision necessary today <p>Guide (right column)</p> <p>Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Affirm commitment •Make recommendations about next step •Acknowledge medical realities •Summarize key goals/priorities •Describe treatment options that reflect both •Document Conversation •Provide patient with Family Communication Guide 	<p>Conversation Guide</p> <p>Understanding What is your understanding now of where you are with your illness?</p> <p>Information Preferences How much information about what is likely to be ahead with your illness would you like from me? For Example: Some patients like to know about time, others like to know what to expect, others like to know both.</p> <p>Prognosis Share prognosis as a range, tailored to information preferences.</p> <p>Goals If your health situation worsens, what are your most important goals?</p> <p>Fears/Worries: What are your biggest fears and worries about the future with your health?</p> <p>Function What abilities are so critical to your life that you can't imagine living without them?</p> <p>Trade-offs If you become sicker, how much are you willing to go through for the possibility of gaining more time?</p> <p>Family How much does your family know about your priorities and wishes? (suggest bringing family and/or health care agent to next visit to discuss together)</p>
	Adapted with permission by Ariadane Lab July 2015

ACP: Process and Intervention

- Discuss, document, and review goals of care at various transitions
- Break “bad news” across all transition points
- Include the family in the process (It will make your life easier: Families are frequently involved in decision-making when a patient deteriorates)
- Provide information for the patient/family to make informed decisions throughout their illness
- Plan for acute episodic and crisis events (use the Medication Tracker as a guide!), declining function, and terminal phase management
- Planning ahead gives patients and family some control

Communication Pearls

All healthcare providers can:

- Initiate or encourage ACP conversations
- Share information
- Contribute to clarifying needs/preferences and establishing goals of care
- Support families to keep talking
- **Clinicians** can be healers through listening, supportive conversations and genuine presence



*"The secret of caring for the patient
is caring about the patient." Peabody 1929*

ACP Website

<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-pei/advance-care-planning>



The screenshot shows the website's header with the Prince Edward Island Canada logo, a search bar, and navigation links. The main content area features the title 'Advance Care Planning', a photograph of two women on a boat, and a list of resources. The footer contains the 'Health PEI' logo and 'One Island Health System' text.

Prince Edward Island CANADA

Site Search Departments

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Contact Us Français

Home About PEI Residents Business Government Online Services

Government / Health PEI

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Advance Care Planning



181562 159230

Advance Care Planning is about having a conversation with your family, friends and your health care provider, so they will know your health care wishes, if you become unable to communicate your own decisions.

What is Advance Care Planning?

Health PEI

One Island Health System

Resources


- [Advance Care Planning Online Interactive Workbook](#)
- [Advance Care Planning Word List](#)
- [Speak-up: Advance Care Planning](#)
- [Compassionate Care Benefits](#)


Health PEI One Island Health System

Health Care Provider Resources

Speak Up
From the conversation
to the end of life care

JUST ASK:
A Conversation Guide for
Goals of Care Discussions



www.advancecareplanning.ca 

Cancer and Advance Care Planning

Tips for Oncology Professionals



Health PEI

One Island Health System



CARENET

Canadian Researchers
at the End of Life Network

Speak Up

Start the conversation
about end-of-life care



Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR):

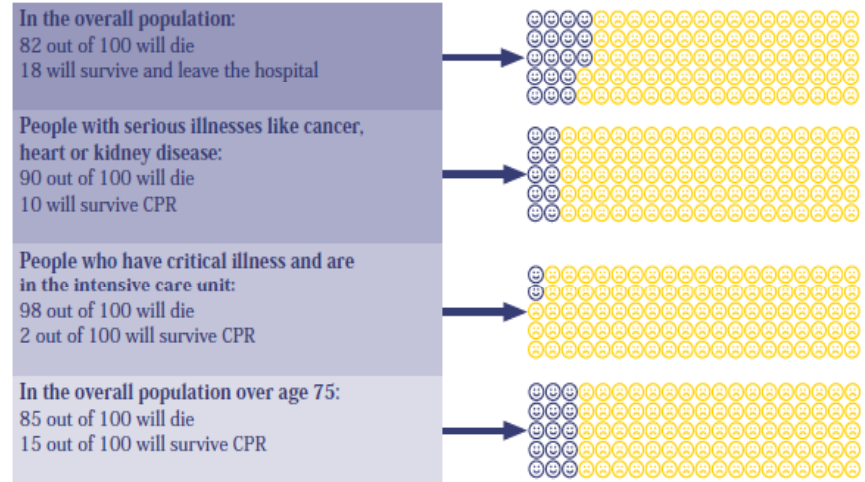
A Decision Aid For
Patients And Their Families

www.advancecareplanning.ca
www.thecarenet.ca

This CPR Decision Aid was developed by Daren Heyland and Christopher Frank

4. How well does CPR work?

How well CPR works depends on the health of the patient. Studies have shown the chance of success with CPR. (See more details and References on page 8.)



What is the chance of survivors going home from hospital?



About ¼ will go home independently.

Another ¼ will go home but require help at home.

About ½ will need to live in an institution – like a nursing home or rehab centre

What is the chance that survivors will have thinking or communication difficulties?



About ½ will have problems such as memory loss, problems with attention and problems getting things done.

Talking with your clinician about the future

At your scheduled visit, your clinician would like to talk with you about your wishes, and plan for the future. It is an important part of your care.

Why is this important?

Thinking about and sharing your wishes will give you control over the care you get. It will also help your clinician make decisions for you if you are unable to do so.

Our team like to see patients are stable, so no one is ahead and behind. Patients with chronic and various, in various situations.

Talking about your illness with loved ones and caregivers

Before you think
Please think about it.

- What you want
- What you don't want
- What you decide

This booklet can help you talk with your loved ones about your illness and the future. It is based on research and experience.

Serious Illness Care Program

Reference Guide for Clinicians

Key Ideas for successful discussions about end-of-life care:

Principles

- Patients want the truth about prognosis
- You will not harm your patient by talking about end-of-life issues
- Anxiety is normal for both patient and family

Why should you encourage Advance Care planning conversations?

You have a relationship with your patients and they trust you. This allows you to initiate the discussion and provide education about the importance of advance care planning.

- You have knowledge and expertise about their illness.
- Research shows us that advance care planning:
 - Improves quality of life and quality of end-of-life care;
 - Reduces stress and anxiety for patients, families and caregivers;
 - Improves communication between patients, families and the health care team; and
 - Reduces strain on the health care system.



Advance Care Planning is a process of reflection and communication. It is a time for patients to reflect on their values and wishes, and to let others know what kind of health and personal care they would want in the future if they became incapable of consenting to or refusing treatment or other care. It involves having discussions with family and friends – especially their Proxy/Substitute Decision Maker(s) – who is the person (or people) who will provide consent or refusal of consent for care and treatment if the patient is mentally incapable.



Patient Resources



Wallet Card

Advance Care Planning provides guidance, confidence and strength to those close to you in the event that you become too ill to make health care choices on your own. The time to prepare your Advance Care Plan is now.

Please visit
www.healthpei.ca/advancecareplanning
 or see our new interactive
 online workbook at
www.advancecareplanningpei.ca

Ce dépliant est également offert en français.

Cut off and keep in wallet

I have a Health Care Directive and a Proxy/Proxies who can speak for me if I am unable to communicate my wishes regarding health care and treatment:

Name of Proxy/Proxies: _____

Relationship to me: _____

Phone # of Proxy/Proxies: _____



Advance Care Planning Workbook

Prince Edward Island Edition

It's about conversations.

It's about decisions.

It's how we care for each other.

It's about having a say in your health care.



www.healthpei.ca/advancecareplanning
www.advancecareplanningpei.ca

On-Line ACP Interactive Workbook

www.advancecareplanningpei.ca/

Speak Up ADVANCE CARE PLANNING PEI WORKBOOK

About Us ▾ Make a Plan HealthPEI 🔍



What is the Advance Care Planning PEI Workbook?

This workbook will help you develop an Advance Care Plan that outlines your wishes about health care decisions in the event you are unable to do so. It will help you consider what is important to you, help you document your beliefs and wishes, make a Health Care Directive and/or appoint a Proxy if you wish, and help you make the Advance Care Plan that best suits you.

[Learn more about Advance Care Planning](#)

Health PEI

One Island Health System



Make Your Plan Today

It's easy with our free online workbook.

[Make Your Plan Today >](#)