

Five Phases of Palliative Care

(Palliative Care Outcome Collaboration Assessment Toolkit 2012)

Stable	Unstable	Deteriorating	Terminal	Bereavement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequately controls existing problems and symptoms <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans further interventions to maintain symptom control and quality of life <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family & carer situation is relatively stable, and no new issues are apparent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing problems rapidly increase in the severity <p>and/or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New problem(s) develop that were not anticipated in the existing plan of care <p>and/or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family & carer circumstances change that suddenly impact on patient care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall functional status is declining <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gradual worsening of existing problems <p>and/or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New, but anticipated, problems develop <p>and/or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family & carers experience gradual worsening distress which impacts patient care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Death is likely within days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient has died
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established plan of care is in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urgent change in plan of care or emergency treatment is required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan of care addresses anticipated need Care plan needs periodic review, to address expected worsening symptoms and distress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change in focus of plan of care to ensure physical, psychological and spiritual comfort care, with provision of anticipatory end of life medications Care plan requires frequent review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned provision of bereavement support to family & carers