

WELCOME

Advance Care Planning & Goals of Care Discussions: Getting us all on the same page (plus practical tips!)

Host and Moderator: Dr. José Pereira

Presenters: Dr. Jeff Myers & Dr. Leah Steinberg



Housekeeping

- Your microphones are muted.
- Use the Q&A function at the bottom of your screen to submit questions.
 Please do not use the chat function for questions.
- This session is being recorded and will be emailed to webinar registrants within the next few days.



Conflict of Interest

Pallium Canada

- Non-profit
- Partially funded through a contribution by Health Canada.
- Generates funds to support operations and R&D from course registration fees and sales
 of the Pallium Pocketbook.

Presenters

- Dr. José Pereira Paid by Pallium Canada as Scientific Officer
- Dr. Jeff Myers Clinical advisor for Hospice Palliative Care Ontario
- Dr. Leah Steinberg Clinical advisors for Hospice Palliative Care Ontario



Presenters

Host and Moderator

Dr. José Pereira MBChB, CFPC(PC), MSc, FCFP Professor and Director, Division of Palliative Care, Department of Family Medicine, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada Scientific Officer, Pallium Canada

Presenters

Jeff Myers MD, MSEd, CCFP(PC)

Associate Professor, Division of Palliative Care, Department of Family & Community Medicine University of Toronto

Leah Steinberg MD, MA, CFCP Assistant Professor, Division of Palliative Care, Department of Family & Community Medicine University of Toronto



Learning objectives

At the end of the presentation, participants will be able to:

- 1. Outline the similarities, differences and relationship between ACP & GOCD
- 2. Understand how values can inform decision-making
- 3. Describe processes and communication tips for both ACP & GOCD
- 4. Explore a framework that clarifies ACP & GOCD in support of knowledge, skill and implementation



Acknowledgements

Dr. Nadia Incardona

Hospice Palliative Care Ontario ACP, GOC & HCC Leadership



There is a great deal of interest in improving experiences and getting ACP & GOCD right

There is recognition that these conversations matter

BUT...

- A variety of terminology clinical settings, educational contexts, literature, etc.
- Creates obstacles when individuals, teams, institutions try to apply them
- A framework that acts as a scaffolding for ACP & GOCD intends to support knowledge, skill & implementation

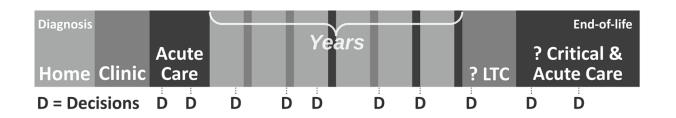


Meet Joe & his wife Sandy.

Joe was recently diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease.

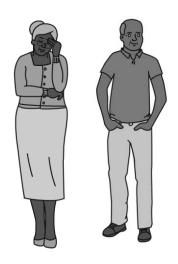
Sandi is Joe's substitute decision maker (SDM) and over the next few yrs, Joe & Sandi will interact with several clinicians in different settings.





Many care and treatment decisions will need to be made.

There's a good chance Joe & Sandi will not understand what having a serious illness means and will not be prepared for decision-making



Improving care & experiences requires teams to ensure both Joe <u>and</u> Sandi:

- understand Joe's illness
- are prepared for decision-making

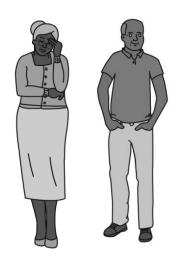
End-of-life

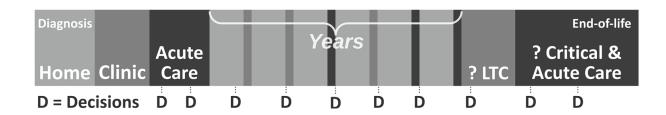
? Critical & Acute Care



Examples of decisions that might need to be made:

- A lung lesion is found incidentally on x-ray. Should Joe have this biopsied?
- He develops atrial fibrillation but is high risk for a fall. Should he begin anti-coagulation?
- As Joe's function worsens, Sandi wonders if LTC would better meet his care needs?





Goals of care discussion:

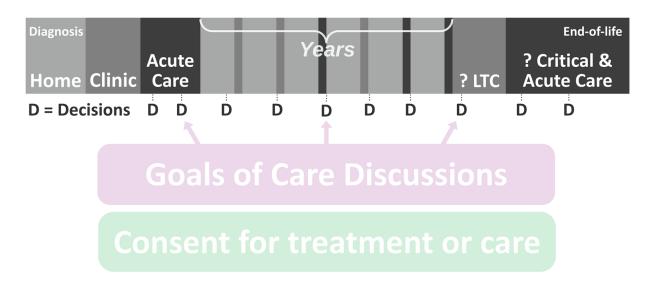
Coyalues based discussion when a treatment or care decision is needed

- Risks, Belleris and Whathaires are almy exploited by the clinician plans in graph in the positions



What will help prepare both Joe & Sandi for decision-making in the future?





Advance care planning...preparatory conversations that:

- confirm a person's SDM
- ensure illness is understood
- enable values-based decision-making in the future



Advance Care Planning Goals of Care Discussions Consent for treatment or care Acknowledgement:

Outcomes

- ☐ SDM is identified
- □ Patient & SDM are prepared for decision-making (illness understanding, values & goals)
- ☐ Illness is understood
- □ Decisions are guided by patient values and goals
- ☐ Risks, benefits and alternatives are fully explored by the clinician proposing treatment or care



Nova Scotia Health

What do we mean by values-based decision-making?



Thought Experiment: What would you do?

You suffer a life-threatening injury and offered a surgery that could save your life.

However, with the surgery there is 80% chance of paralysis (upper and lower limbs).

Would you have the surgery?







NO



Thought Experiment: What would you do?

You have a debilitating motor condition and offered a medication that allows most patients to function independently.

However most patients also experience a 30% reduction in cognitive function.

Would you take the medication?



YES

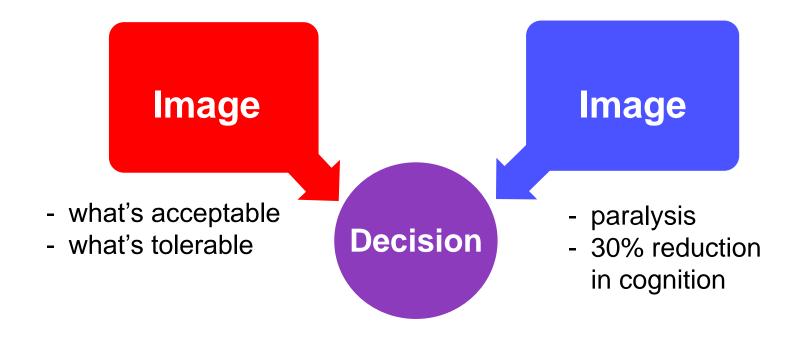


NO



What did you do?

How did you arrive at these decisions? What went through your mind?





What patients consider

- People do not envision their future health in terms of their FEV1 or % tumour burden or kidney function and wanting dialysis or not
- They think about the <u>outcomes</u> of treatments...



 What they imagine life to look like and how it will be affected by illness and treatments



Effective decision-making

Values & Goals

- about the person
- what's important & why it's important

Decision

Information & Evidence

- about illness/disease
- about treatments

Goals of information are needed for decisions to be ellective



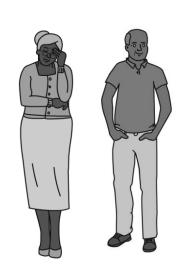
Clinician Guidance Another way to think about the framework

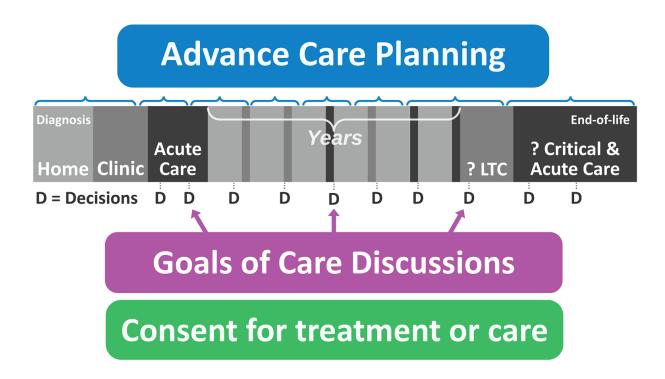
Is a treatment or care decision needed?

Illness understanding becomes a priority



ACP & GOCD are setting agnostic







Advance Care Planning

Goals of Care Discussions

Consent for treatment or care

ACP Tools, Conversation Guides & Communication Skills

- Serious Illness Conversation
- VitalTalk
- Speakup
- PlanWell
- Respecting Choices
- Prepareforyourcare.org
- CPAC
- CardioTalk
- MOST



Advance Care Planning

Goals of Care Discussions

Consent for treatment or care

GOC Tools, Conversation Guides & Communication Skills

- VitalTalk
- Respecting choices
- CPAC
- CardioTalk
- GCD



The process is similar: A hybrid guide

Prepare

Prepare yourself

- know medical information trajectory, treatment options,
- put aside your agenda the goal is to see the world as they see it

Explore

Explore illness understanding

- Patient should talk more than you
- Encourage with Silence/Reflection/Open-ended questions

Inform

Give information: concise, clear, and meaning

- Speak slowly and be clear about impact on life
- Pause often and expect emotional responses

Explore Values

Ask about values

- What is most important to you?
- What are you most worried about?

Recommend

GOC: Make recommendations;

ACP: follow up with SDM



Acknowledgments: Many resources teach a model to have these conversations. See a partial list below

Ian Anderson Continuing Education
Program in End-of-Life Care,
University of Toronto
https://www.cpd.utoronto.ca/endoflif
e/Modules.htm

Landzaat, L "The Communication Tool Belt"

Hallenbeck, J., http://www.eperc.mcw.edu/fastFact #026

You, J et. al. Just ask: discussing goals of care with patients in hospital with serious illness. CMAJ 2013

Vital Talk

Ariadne Labs Serious Illness program

Overarching Principles

- Outcome is uncertain values-sensitive
- Team: All health care providers can do this
- Iterative
- Guidance and coaching
- Expect and respond to emotions
 - Essential to do this well
 - Not taught how to do this



In the next slides, we will highlight just a few skills and phrases that are helpful

This is just a quick overview – for more information on this process, see

Goalsofcaremodule.com

Check out your provincial groups to learn about training opportunities to learn these skills



Prepare

- Know medical information
- Leave your agenda aside
- Take a supportive attitude

ACP	GOC
 Pro-active Practice ways to start the conversation that fit your context 	ReactivePractice Communication Skills



Prepare

- Know medical information
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ACP Introduction:

"you've had a few changes in your health and we may have some decisions coming up in the future...

many people find it helpful to talk about what is going on with their health and start to get prepared for a time when will have decisions to make...

this is called advance care planning...have you ever heard of that?"





- Person's illness understanding
- Person should be talking more than you
- Use good listening skills to encourage person to talk
- See the world from their perspective

Three skills encourage a person to talk...

- Open ended questions
- Reflections
- Silence

You are looking for the person to tell you something you can invite them to say more about...





- Person's illness understanding
- Person should be talking more than you
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This can be done by so many clinicians - MDs, nursing, allied health

If you learn that your patient needs more information –

"It seems like you aren't sure what might happen with your illness in the future...is that right? Would it be helpful if I asked someone to give you more information?"



Inform

- Use excellent communication skills
 - Slow, pauses, no medical language
- Give meaning of the information
- Expect emotional response

Start with asking for permission --

"I have some more information about dementia... would it be okay if I told you more information?"

- "Alzheimer's dementia has 3 phases..."
- "The ups and downs of your heart failure are normal...let me show you the typical pattern..."



Inform

- Use excellent communication skills
 - Slow, pauses, no medical language
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Providing illness education is a skill!

Means being able to explain trajectories of chronic, progressive illness;

Do you know how to describe illnesses, trajectories, complications?

Use visuals!



Goals and Values

- Ask about values
 - What is most important to you?
 - What are you worried about?

Once you have achieved some illness understanding and you want to think about next steps:

"Mr. Smith, you have a really good understanding of what is happening... I wonder...what would you say would be most important for you now? I wonder....is there anything you are worried about as you think about the future with this illness?"



Goals and Values

- Ask about values
 - What is most important to you?
 - What are you worried about?

He says:

"I know I'm dying...but I'd like to live as long as I can — I am spending time with my family...it is really important to me that I can be with them as much as possible. I'm worried though that I'll suffer at the end of life..."

But what if he says:

"I'm worried I won't be able to go back to work...that is what is most important – I have to get better and go back to work...



Goals and Values

- Ask about values
 - What is most important to you?
 - What are you worried about?

What can we do?

Better to know, acknowledge and explore

Don't push medical facts on emotions or on resistance

I wish statements



Learn a Conversation Guide

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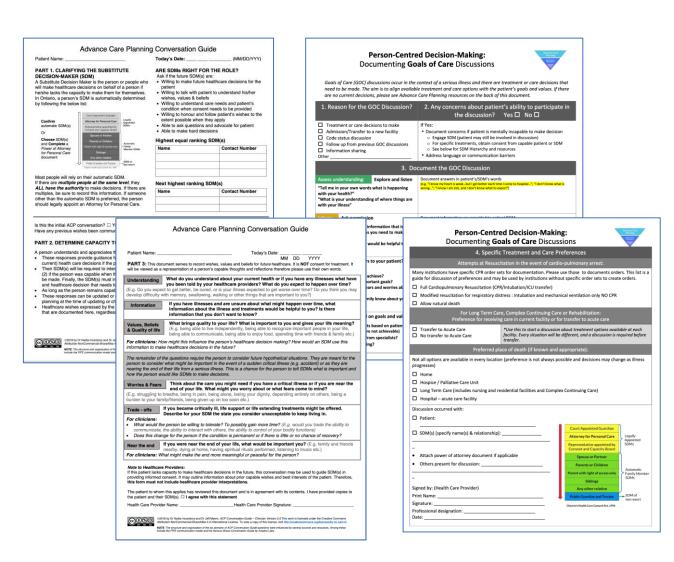
Recommend

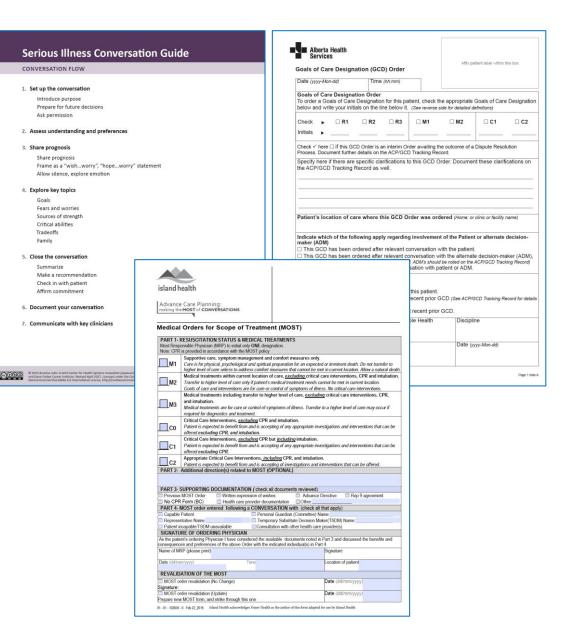
GOC: Make recommendations;

ACP: follow up with SDM



Resources







Q&A

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THANK YOU



