

Table 22-1: Initiating Advanced Disease Planning Discussions

1. What has your medical team told you about your condition? What does this information mean to you?
2. Tell me about your good days. What are you able to do on those days?
3. When is the last time you had a day like that in the past two months?
4. Have you had any bad days lately? What makes them bad?
5. What kind of assistance do you need on these bad days?
6. If your condition worsens, do you want to go back to the hospital?
7. What are your most meaningful goals at this time in your life? Is there anything we can do to help you achieve them?
8. In the event of your death, is there anyone or anything that you are worried about?
9. Have you ever heard of a medical power of attorney or a health care proxy?
10. Do you have a living will? Who in your family is aware of it and has a copy?
11. Are you having chronic pain or other distressing symptoms?
12. What can we do to make your life more comfortable/manageable?