

Table 24-2: Useful Questions for Exploring Patient and/or Family Concerns

| Domain | Question |
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| Physical comfort | Tell me about your pain. Can you rate it on a 10-point scale? |
| | How much do you suffer from physical symptoms like shortness of breath, fatigue, or bowel problems? |
| Continuity with one's self | What makes life most worth living for you at this time? |
| | If you were to die sooner rather than later, what would be left undone? |
| Maintaining and enhancing relationships | How are your family (or loved ones) handling your illness? |
| | Have you had a chance to tell your family (or loved ones) how they are important to you? |
| Making meaning of life and death | What kind of legacy do you want to leave behind? |
| | What would allow you to feel that going through this illness has a purpose? |
| | Do you have spiritual beliefs that are important in how you deal with this illness? |
| Achieving a sense of control | How would you like your death to go? |
| Confronting and preparing for death | How much are you thinking about dying now? |
| | What are you thinking about it? |