

Scripts for Introducing Advance Care Planning (ACP)

1 DEFINE AND NORMALIZE

"One topic we introduce to all of our patients is **advanced care planning**. Advance care planning is a part of life planning, similar to preparing a will or saving for retirement... **it's planning ahead for your future health and personal care.**"

2 STEPS

"Advance care planning involves thinking about **what matters most to you** - your values and preferences towards care - and sharing this with your loved ones and healthcare team."

3 WHY ACP IS IMPORTANT

"It's important to have these conversations while you're feeling well. That way, if your health were to change unexpectedly, we'd be prepared. By talking about and writing down your wishes in advance, your healthcare team and loved ones can make sure that **the care you receive aligns with what you want**, even if you aren't able to speak for yourself."

4 CAN CHANGE IT ANY TIME

"Nothing you say today is set in stone. We can **revisit these conversations anytime** and as many times as you'd like."

ACP Conversation Guide: Understanding What Matters Most

- 1 What should I know about you as a person to provide you with the best possible care?
- 2 You or your loved ones may have had healthcare experiences that influence how you want to receive care.
Are there things you already know about your preferences for health and personal care?
- 3 You've had some difficult news lately. A cancer diagnosis is a lot to take in and can impact your whole family.
What are some things you're worried or concerned about? Is there anything that has been on your mind you would like to talk about?
- 4 One part of advance care planning is deciding who you would want to be your substitute decision maker.
If you were unable to make healthcare decisions yourself, who might you trust to make those decisions for you?

Close the Conversation

“ I really appreciate you having this conversation with me. Thank you for sharing. ”

Summarize What you Heard

Document the Conversation & Plan for Next Steps



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