

## Communication Worksheet: Delivering Serious News

*Primary Palliative Care Learning  
Collaborative*

*Session 1: October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019*



### **Meet your patient: Mike**

**Mike is a 42 year-old man who was told 2 days ago that he has head and neck cancer. He's in clinic today to talk about the diagnosis.**

**Mike says to you:** *I'm not even sure why I'm seeing you. I guess this means I'm really in bad shape.*

**Your Reply:** *(First Sentence Only)*

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**Mike says to you:** *He said something about squamous cells. I read about them on the internet last night.*

**Your Reply:** *(First Sentence Only)*

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**Mike says to you:** *Of course.*

**Your Reply:** *(First Sentence Only)*

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**Mike says to you:** *How could this happen? I stopped smoking last year.*

**Your Reply:** *(First Sentence Only)*

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**Mike says to you:** *How will I tell my kids?*

**Your Reply:** *(First Sentence Only)*

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**Mike says to you:** *Thanks for talking to me, I think I'm OK for today. I want to be as prepared as I can be.*

**Your Reply:** *(First Sentence Only)*

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