

Communication Worksheet: Discussing Prognosis

Primary Palliative Care Learning Collaborative

Session 2: November 12, 2019



Meet your patient: Javier

Javier is a 75 year-old man who has Stage IV COPD, avascular necrosis of the right hip, pulmonary hypertension and diabetes. He has lost 25 lbs. over the past year and hasn't left his home for two years because of severe dyspnea. However today he managed to get to the clinic in a wheelchair with the help of his wife and son. You are seeing Javier for the first time.

Would you be surprised if this patient died in the next year?

Javier says to you: Could I ask you- what's going to happen?

Your Reply: (First Sentence Only)

Javier says to you: No, I mean how long can I live like this?

Your Reply: (First Sentence Only)

Javier says to you: *Yes- I want to know how much time I've got.*

Your Reply: *(First Sentence Only)*

Javier says to you: *Oh no, that's hard to believe.*

Your Reply: *(First Sentence Only)*

Javier says to you: *Well, I am surprised- but I know I'm slowly getting worse. I guess I'll just have to pray.*

Your Reply: *(First Sentence Only)*

Javier says to you: *I'm glad we talked. I don't think my wife would have been ready for this.*

Your Reply: *(First Sentence Only)*



Javier says to you: *My wife worries too much.*

Your Reply: *(First Sentence Only)*
