

## **Appendix 2 (as supplied by the authors): Vignettes**

### *Internal Medicine*

A 70 year old patient who has severe COPD (on home oxygen), is housebound , and requires assistance for most activities of daily living, is admitted to the medical ward under your care with an exacerbation of their COPD. The patient's acute symptoms have resolved. You are uncertain about the patient's goals of care and preferences regarding the use (or non-use) of life sustaining technology.

### *Hematology-Oncology*

A 70 year old man is admitted to the Hematology ward with progressive multiple myeloma and increasing bone pain. He was diagnosed with multiple myeloma 8 years ago and has undergone two previous autologous stem cell transplants. He is currently on a third line clinical trial drug with refractory disease. It has been difficult to control his bone pain at home and he has been admitted for optimization of analgesia. You are uncertain about the patient's goals of care and preferences regarding the use (or non-use) of life sustaining technology.

### *Medical/Radiation Oncology*

A 55 year old woman with advanced breast cancer, currently on hormonal therapy, is admitted to the oncology ward under your care with shortness of breath secondary to a newly discovered malignant pleural effusion. A pigtail catheter has been inserted and her shortness of breath has improved. However, her performance status remains poor due to her disease burden. She is capable of only minimal self-care and is confined to bed or a chair for most of the day. You are uncertain about the patient's goals of care and preferences regarding the use (or non-use) of life sustaining technology.