

# Rapid Code Status Conversation Guide

**Goal:** Make patient-centered recommendations regarding [intubation/interventions] for patients who may be at high-risk for poor outcomes. After establishing that an advance directive does not exist, complete the following steps:

Steps	What to say
<b>1. Elicit understanding</b>	I <b>wish</b> we met under different circumstances. Your [loved one] is very sick and we have to decide quickly about [their] care. <b>What have you heard</b> about what happened today?
<b>2. Break bad news</b>	<b>Ask Permission:</b> I am afraid I have serious news. Would it be OK if I share?  <b>Disclose:</b> Your [loved one] is having a very difficult time [breathing] due to [a severe pneumonia]. With [their] serious health issues, I am <b>worried</b> that things may not go well, and it's possible [they] could even die.  <i>(Pause, allow for emotion)</i>
<b>3. Align</b>	We need to <b>work together quickly</b> to make the best decisions for [their] care.
<b>4. Baseline function</b>	To decide which treatments might help [them] the most, I need to know more about [them].  What <b>type of activities</b> was your [loved one] doing day to day before this illness?
<b>5. Values</b>  <i>(Use questions as appropriate)</i>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expressed wishes</li> <li>Feelings about inabilities</li> <li>Crucial abilities</li> <li>Willing to go through...</li> <li>States worse than dying</li> </ul>	Has your [loved one] <b>expressed wishes</b> about the type of medical care [they] would or wouldn't want?  How might [they] <b>feel if treatments today led to: the inability</b> to return to [their] favourite activities? Their inability to care for themselves as much as [they] do now?  What <b>abilities are so crucial</b> that your [loved one] wouldn't consider life worth living if [they] lost them?  How much would [they] be <b>willing to go through</b> for the possibility of more time?  Are there states your [loved one] would consider <b>worse than dying</b> ?
<b>6. Summarize</b>	<b>What I heard</b> is that your [loved one] considered _____ most important, and that [they] would consider treatments that result in _____ unacceptable.  <b>Did I get that right?</b>
<b>7. Recommendation</b>	Based on what you've shared with me, <b>we would recommend:</b> <i>(choose one)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intensive treatment focused on <b>comfort; or</b></li> <li>Intensive treatment focused on <b>recovering</b> from [this illness].</li> </ul> <p>We will use all available medical treatment that we think will help your [loved one] recover from this illness. For [them], this means: <i>(choose one)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting [their] body in recovering from this illness without <b>treatments that could make [them] more uncomfortable</b>, while doing everything we can to assure that [they] are comfortable and peaceful; <b>or</b></li> <li>Supporting [their] body in <b>recovering from this illness with intensive treatments</b>, including ventilators [and CPR], while also doing everything we can to assure that [they] are as comfortable as possible. I worry that even with maximum care, your [loved one's] body may still tire out. The admitting teams will support you over the coming days with upcoming decisions."</li> </ul> <p><b>Does this sound ok?</b></p>
<b>8. Document</b>	

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Ouchi, K., Lawton, A. J., Bowman, J., Bernacki, R., & George, N. (2020). Managing code status conversations for seriously ill older adults in respiratory failure. *Annals of Emergency Medicine: An International Journal*, 76(6), 751-756. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annemergmed.2020.05.039>