

HOSPICE CDU PROTOCOL

INCLUSION CRITERIA

- Patient has a life-limiting illness
- Expected prognosis of hours to days (not weeks to months)
- Patient or surrogate decision maker decides to transition to comfort measures only
- Awaiting transfer to an inpatient hospice facility
- Awaiting transfer to home hospice (ie: awaiting DME, hospice agency arrival to home)

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- Patient expected to live for weeks
- Anticipated complicated symptom management needs (ie: status epilepticus)
- Patient without medical capacity and no determined surrogate decision maker
- Unclear goals of care (ie: patient/family are undecided about CMO pathway)

CDU INTERVENTIONS AS INDICATED

- Facilitate family presence at the bedside
- Case management consultation as needed
- Hospice of Southern Maine liaison as needed
- Spiritual care consultation
- Consultation with Child Life Specialist as needed for young family members
- Palliative Care consultation as needed (available weekdays, available by phone weekends)
- CMO order set in Epic
- Placement of foley catheter
- Pronouncement of death and completion of death certificate

CDU DISPOSITION

- Expired (deceased)
- Transfer (inpatient hospice facility)
- Discharge (to home hospice)
- Admit (change in goals of care, or symptoms refractory to management in CDU)