

# Qualifying Hospice Guidelines for Stroke/Coma



## **Stroke:**

1. Decline in Karnofsky Performance Status or Palliative Performance Score of <40%. (See back)

KPS \_\_\_\_\_ PPS \_\_\_\_\_

## **AND**

2. Inability to maintain hydration and caloric intake with one or more of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Weight loss >10% in past 6 months or >7.5% in past 3 months

\_\_\_\_\_ Serum albumin <2.5 gm/dl

\_\_\_\_\_ Current history of pulmonary aspiration not responsive to speech language pathology intervention; sequential calorie counts documenting inadequate caloric / fluid intake

\_\_\_\_\_ Dysphagia severe enough to prevent patient from continuing fluids/foods necessary to sustain life and patient does not receive artificial nutrition and hydration

## **Coma (any etiology):**

1. Comatose patients with any 3 of the following on day three of coma:

\_\_\_\_\_ Abnormal brain response

\_\_\_\_\_ Absent verbal response

\_\_\_\_\_ Absent withdrawal response to pain

\_\_\_\_\_ Serum creatinine >1.5 mg/dl

*2 and 3 are factors which support poor prognosis and hospice eligibility*

2. Documentation of medical complications, in the context of progressive clinical decline, within the past 12 months, would support a terminal prognosis.

\_\_\_\_\_ Aspiration pneumonia

\_\_\_\_\_ Pyelonephritis

\_\_\_\_\_ Refractory stage 3-4 decubitus ulcers

\_\_\_\_\_ Fever recurrent after antibiotics

3. Diagnostic imaging support poor prognosis after stroke include:

a. Non-traumatic hemorrhagic stroke

\_\_\_\_\_ Large-volume hemorrhage on CT

\_\_\_\_\_ Surface area involvement of hemorrhage >30% of cerebrum

\_\_\_\_\_ Supratentorial  $\geq 50$ ml

\_\_\_\_\_ Infratentorial  $\geq 20$ ml

\_\_\_\_\_ Midline shift  $\geq 1.5$ cm

\_\_\_\_\_ Ventricular extension of hemorrhage

\_\_\_\_\_ Obstructive hydrocephalus in pt who declines or not a candidate for ventriculoperitoneal shunt

b. Thrombotic/embolic stroke:

\_\_\_\_\_ Large anterior infarcts with both cortical & subcortical involvement

\_\_\_\_\_ Large bihemispheric infarcts

\_\_\_\_\_ Basilar artery occlusion

\_\_\_\_\_ Bilateral vertebral artery occlusion

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**Karnofsky Status – Pick one value (status of 70% or less required)**

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Moribund / imminent death	10 _____
Very sick / active supportive tx	20 _____
Severely disabled / req close monitoring	30 _____
Disabled / req special care / assistance	40 _____
Req much assistance / freq med care	50 _____
Req occasional assist / self care most ADL	60 _____
Self Care ADL's / limited activity	70 _____
Normal activity with effort / S&S of dx	80 _____
Normal activity / minor S&S of dx	90 _____
No evidence of dx	100 _____

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**Palliative Performance Score – (Poor functional status at or below 40%)**

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Totally bed bound / unable to do any activity; intake: mouth care only; drowsy or coma	10 _____
Totally bed bound / unable to do any activity; intake: minimal to sips; full or drowsy	20 _____
Totally bed bound / unable to do any activity; intake: normal / reduced; full or drowsy	30 _____
Mainly in bed / unable to do most activity mainly assist; intake: normal / reduced; full or drowsy	40 _____
Mainly sit / lie / unable to do any work; considerable assistance req; intake: normal / reduced; full or confusion	50 _____
Activity unable hobby / housework; req occasional assistance; intake: normal / reduced; full consciousness / confusion	60 _____
Unable to do normal job / work; indep. care; intake: normal / reduced; full consciousness	70 _____
Full / normal activity with effort; indep. care; intake: normal; full consciousness	80 _____
Full / normal activity and work; indep. care; intake: normal; full consciousness	90 _____
Full / normal activity and work; indep. care; intake: normal; full consciousness	100 _____

Karnofsky Score (<70%) \_\_\_\_\_

Palliative Performance Score (<40%) \_\_\_\_\_