

Skills Practice Case: Advanced COPD (Nurse/ APN/ Social Worker Case Manager Role)

Background

Case 1 SETTING: Clinic, one month after hospitalization for COPD exacerbation.

- Mr./Mrs. Smith is a 68-year-old retired salesperson
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), on steroids and home oxygen; diabetes; chronic kidney disease; chronic hip pain
- Three hospitalizations this year (COPD exacerbations)
- Two ED visits (fall, med refill)
- Worsening shortness of breath, muscle weakness, fatigue
- Declining functional status at home, despite short stays in rehab after each hospitalization
- Spouse very involved, 28-year-old daughter lives

Care Manager

The goal of the discussion today is to use the Structured Communication Guide to explore Mr./Mrs. Smith's values, goals and priorities for care in the setting of illness progression.

As you prepare to speak with Mr. Smith, you consider the following:

Mr. Smith has COPD and multiple co-morbidities (diabetes, kidney disease, chronic hip pain)

Given the hospitalizations and declining functional status, you are worried that he will have a harder time managing at home and that something serious could happen quickly, so you want to begin a conversation. You introduced the SI topic on your last call and you want to have a more robust SI conversation today.