

Table 1: Goals of care and advance care planning discussions (adapted from Rapoport A).

1) Ensure Understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ascertain caregiver (and patient where possible) understanding of current medical situation and prognosis answer questions, clarify misconceptions and, when uncertainty exists, provide professional opinions based on the best available evidence and clinical experience.
2) What Matters Most?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> accurate appreciation of the clinical situation is established, including the capabilities and limitations of medical interventions in the present context consideration of values, hopes, beliefs, and wishes of the patient and family. what matters most may be informed by positive desires and motivations (e.g., “to keep fighting” or “to be at home as much as possible”) or by yearning to minimize fears and worries (e.g., “I just don’t want to see her suffer” or “I’m not ready to die yet”), or some combination of both.
3) Recommend Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> responsibility of medical providers to take above information and ‘operationalize’ it into goals of care including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) prolonging Life 2) as much good time as possible 3) focus on comfort