



Nurse-Physician Conversation: Study & Discussion Guide

I. Review goals and suggested skills for this conversation on the Skill and Conversation Handout. The conversation goals are:

- Share family understanding of prognosis
- Elicit physician perspective on prognosis
- Share patient values, goals, preferences
- Develop plan to address family needs

II. Have a paper and pen and the Skill and Conversation Handout ready. As you watch the video, respond to the following questions:

- As Annie speaks with the physician, how does she share Frank's understanding of Sandra's prognosis? Give specific phrases from the conversation.
- How does Annie elicit the physician's perspective on Sandra's prognosis? Give specific phrases from the conversation.
- How does Annie share what she learned from her conversation with Frank about Sandra's values, goals, and preferences? Give specific phrases from the conversation.
- How does Annie work with the physician to develop a plan to address Frank's needs? Give specific phrases from the conversation.

III. Take-aways

- What did we learn about the physician's perspective on Sandra's prognosis that we didn't know before?
- How did the information Annie provided to the physician change the care plan?
- Thinking ahead to the family conference, what information will be important to discuss and ensure the family understands during that conference?

IV. Reflection

- Reflect on a recent patient and family you've cared for. What was challenging for you in communicating with the patient's physicians?
- What skills did you see here that might help meet a similar challenge in the future?

V. Practice

- Watch the video again, pausing after the physician speaks to practice responding in your own words using the skills you've learned.
- Choose a skill to practice with a physician the next time you are working in the ICU. Notice how the physician reacts and debrief this with a friend or colleague.