



University of California  
San Francisco

# Symptom Management and Palliative Care for Lung Cancer

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San Francisco

# Disclosures

*The presenter has no relevant  
financial relationships to disclose.*





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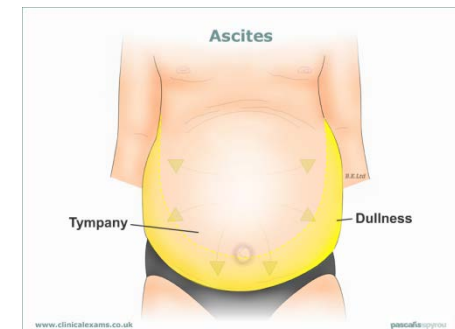
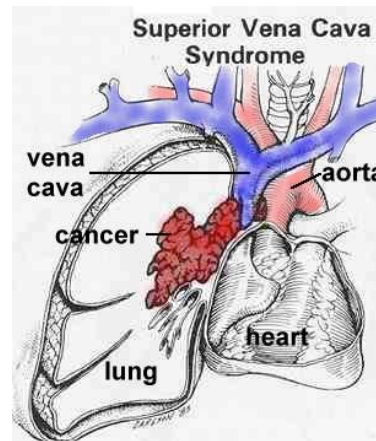
# Goal for today's session

*Recognize and be able to manage pulmonary manifestations of lung cancer and toxicities from its therapies*

*Identify elements of palliative care that can be used in caring for patients with lung cancer*

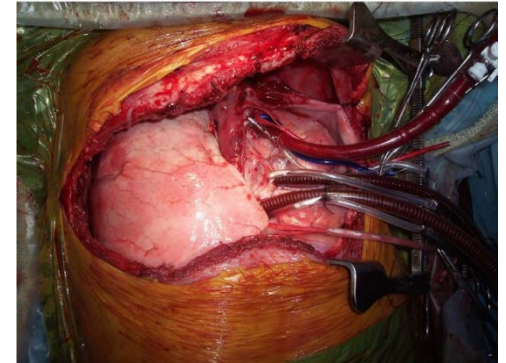
# Disease-related Manifestations of Lung CA

- Airway obstruction
- Pleural effusion
- Ascites
- Superior Vena Cava Syndrome
- Complications
  - Pneumonia
  - Anemia
  - Pulmonary emboli
  - Cachexia
  - Deconditioning



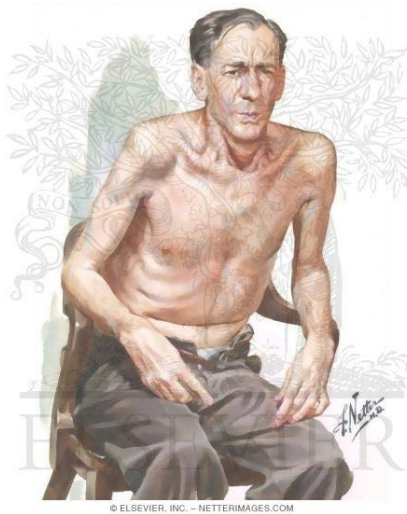
# Treatment-related Manifestations of Lung CA

- Surgery
  - Pneumonectomy
  - Lobectomy
- Radiation
  - Pneumonitis
  - Fibrosis
- Chemotherapy
  - Pneumonitis
  - Fibrosis
  - Cardiomyopathy



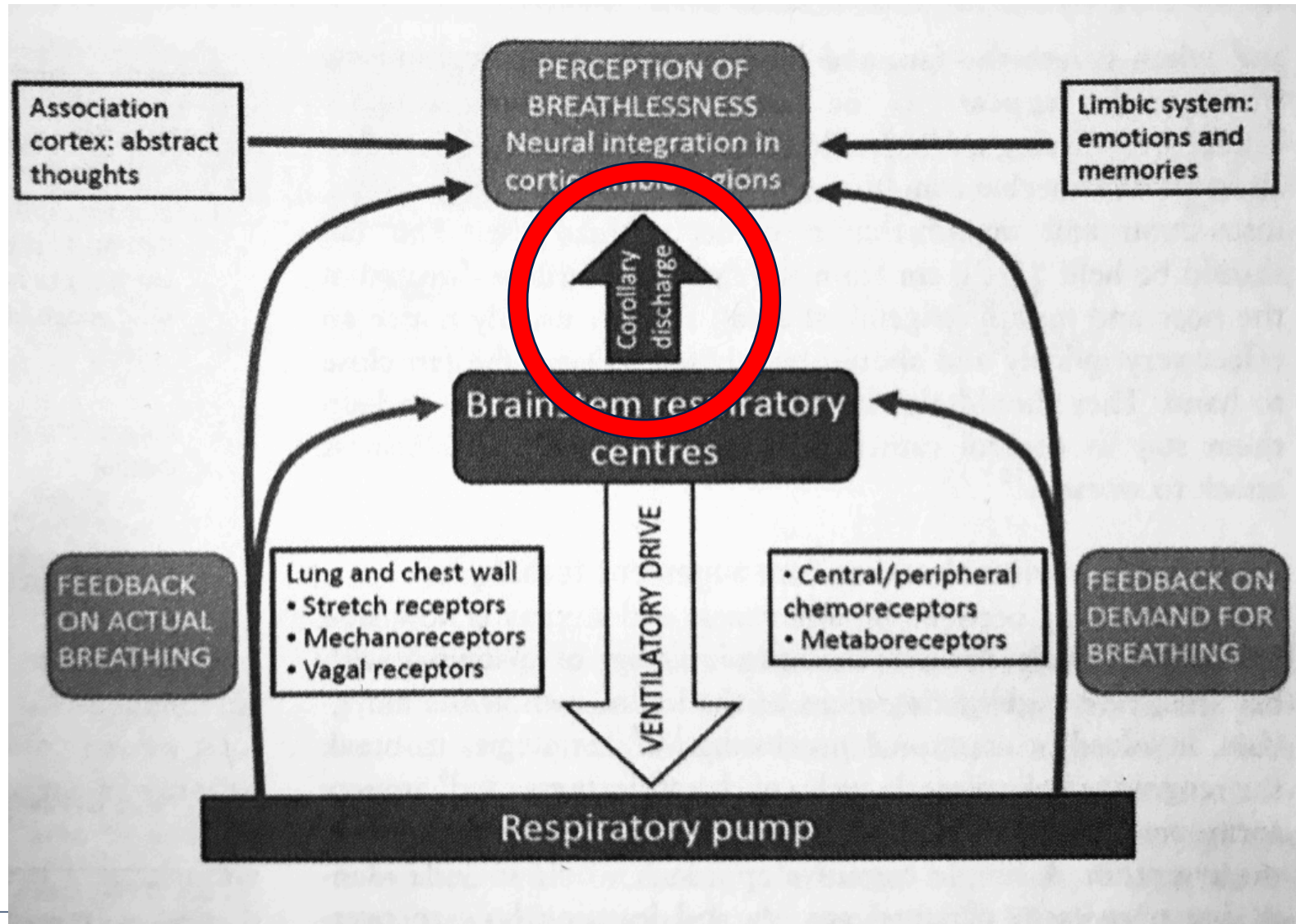
# Comorbid Conditions with Lung CA

- COPD
- CHF
- Asthma
- Environmental exposures
- Pneumothorax
- Chest wall deformity
- Anxiety, panic, depression, obsessive, hyperventilation
- Terrified
- Isolation, dependence
- “Death rattle” / terminal secretions





# Final Common Pathway of Dyspnea





# Evidence-based interventions for treating dyspnea in advanced disease and at the end of life

A report from the HPNA Dyspnea Task Force  
2017

THE ANNUAL  
**ASSEMBLY**

HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE

[AnnualAssembly.org](http://AnnualAssembly.org)

#hpm17

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# Level 1 Interventions for Dyspnea

## “Recommended for practice”

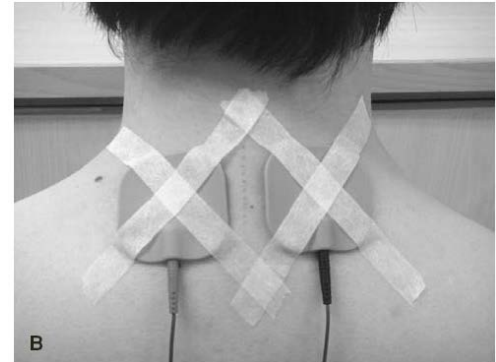
- Long acting beta adrenergic agonist combined with long-acting muscarinic antagonist
- Immediate release oral morphine for cancer and COPD
- Oxygen for patients with hypoxemia ( $\text{PaO}_2 < 55 \text{ mmHg}$ )
- Pulmonary rehabilitation for patients with COPD
- Specialist dyspnea service for patients with multiple at-risk diagnoses



# Level 2 Interventions for Dyspnea

## “Likely to be effective”

- Short-acting beta adrenergic agonist
- Short-acting muscarinic antagonist
- Sustained release once-daily morphine, not available in US
- Subcutaneous morphine in lung cancer
- Immediate release oral morphine in heart failure
- Acupressure
- Acupoints with transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation
- Fans
- Mindfulness
- Internet-based dyspnea self-management in COPD



# Level 3 Interventions for Dyspnea

## Benefits balanced with harm

- Non-invasive ventilation for cancer patients with hypercarbia
- High flow nasal oxygen for patients with cancer with persistent dyspnea
- Acupuncture
- Co-enzyme Q10



# Level 4 Interventions for Dyspnea

## **”Effectiveness not established”**

- Nebulized furosemide
- Immediate release oral morphine in interstitial lung disease
- Nebulized fentanyl
- Oral transmucosal fentanyl
- Oxygen for cancer patients with and without hypoxemia
- Heliox28 gas mixture for patients with lung cancer and dyspnea on exertion
- Benzodiazepines for patients with variety of diagnoses

# Level 5 Interventions for Dyspnea

## **”Effectiveness unlikely”**

- Nebulized morphine
- Epidural methadone
- Oxygen for patients near death with no signs of respiratory distress



# Level 6 Interventions for Dyspnea

**”Not recommended for practice”**

- Oxygen for patients who are not hypoxemic

# Nonpharmacologic Dyspnea Strategies

## Professional

- Pulmonary rehab
- Breathlessness Intervention
- Pacing/Energy conservation
- Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT)
- Music/distractive auditory stimuli
- Chest wall vibration
- Noninvasive ventilation
- Education
- Walking aid: rollator/cane
- Dyspnea Plan
- Neuromuscular electrical stimulation

## Self-Management

- Posture: braced forward lean
- Pursed lip breathing
- Abdominal breathing
- Fan/air movement
- Exercise

## Complementary

- Relaxation / Mindfulness-based stress reduction
- Biofeedback
- Spinal movement
- Acupuncture/acupressure
- Yoga/tai chi



# AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY DOCUMENTS

## **An Official American Thoracic Society Workshop Report: Assessment and Palliative Management of Dyspnea Crisis**

Richard A. Mularski, Lynn F. Reinke, Virginia Carrieri-Kohlman, Mark D. Fischer, Margaret L. Campbell, Graeme Rocker, Ann Schneidman, Susan S. Jacobs, Robert Arnold, Joshua O. Benditt, Sara Booth, Ira Byock, Garrett K. Chan, J. Randall Curtis, DorAnne Donesky, John Hansen-Flaschen, John Heffner, Russell Klein, Trina M. Limberg, Harold L. Manning, R. Sean Morrison, Andrew L. Ries, Gregory A. Schmidt, Paul A. Selecky, Robert D. Truog, Angela C. C. Wang, and Douglas B. White; on behalf of the ATS Ad Hoc Committee on Palliative Management of Dyspnea Crisis

THIS OFFICIAL WORKSHOP REPORT OF THE AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY (ATS) WAS APPROVED BY THE ATS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JUNE 2013



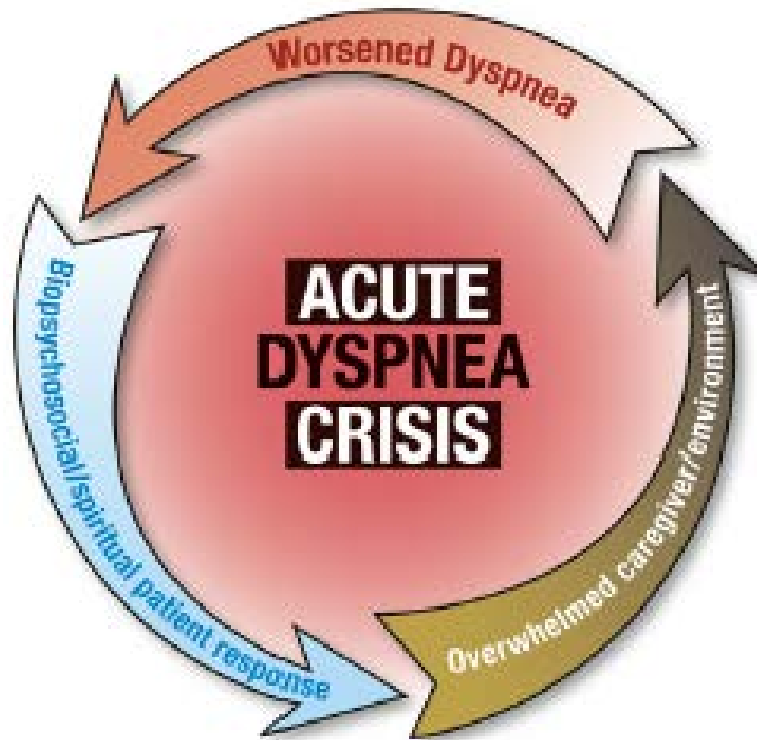
AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY

## **Patient Information Series**

### **Sudden Breathlessness Crisis**

# Dyspnea Crisis

sustained and severe resting breathing discomfort that occurs in patients with advanced, often life-limiting illness and overwhelms the patient and caregivers' ability to achieve symptom relief.



# *Sudden Breathlessness Crisis*

**C**

**Call for help.** Calm the person.

**O**

**Observe** the person closely. Evaluate how severe their shortness of breath has become.

**M**

**Medication** like morphine, inhaled bronchodilator and/or medication for anxiety may help.

**F**

**Fan** to create air movement on the face. Open a window. Cool the room.

**O**

**Oxygen.** Increase the amount of oxygen or give oxygen if ordered.



**R**

**Reassure.** Help the person relax, provide reassurance.

**T**

**Take** your time, don't rush.

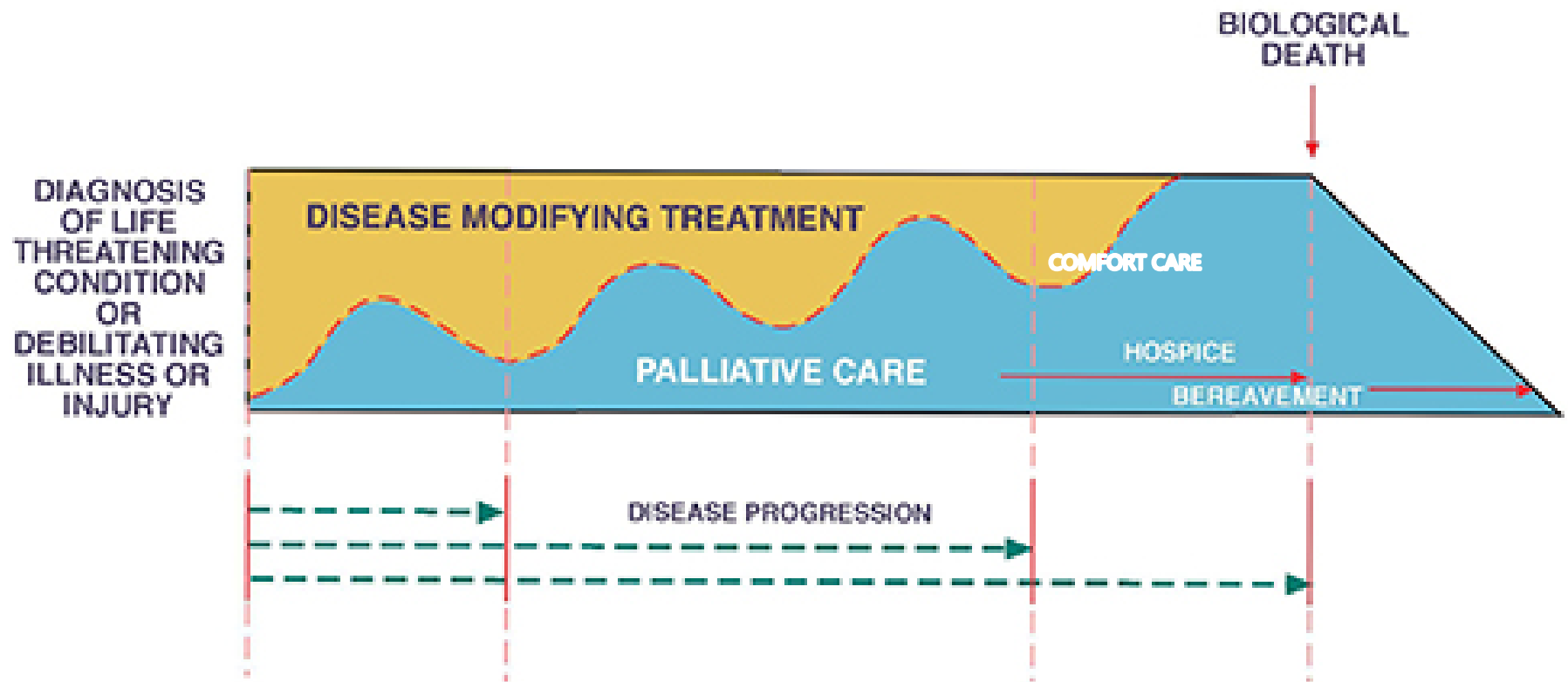
# What is Palliative Care?

Palliative care is specialized care for people with serious illnesses. It focuses on providing relief   
from the pain, symptoms and distress of serious  
illness. It is a team-based approach to care  
involving specialty-trained doctors, nurses, social  
workers and other specialists focused on  
 improving quality of life.



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# Timing of Palliative Care



Aspects of Care	Pulm Rehab	PC
Holistic approach	++	+++
Interdisciplinary approach	++	+++
Patient centered	+++	+++
Based on patient preferences	+	+++
Family Support	++	+++
Focus on Disease modification	++	+
Principles applicable throughout disease	++	++
Focuses on Symptom Mgt and QOL	+++	+++
Focuses on Maximizing Functional Status	+++	++
Promotes Self Management Strategies	+++	+
Psychological support	++	+++
Bereavement counseling	0	+++
Formal exercise training	+++	0
Promotes advance directives	++	+++
Spiritual Dimension	0	+++
<b>Retiker, CRD 2012</b>		

# Interprofessional Team



# Psychological Aspects of Care

Mental Status:  
Confusion,  
Delirium

Mood:  
Depression &  
Anxiety

Trauma

Stress &  
Adjustment

Substance Abuse

Anticipatory  
Grief

Demoralization

Non-ordinary  
States

Bereavement

# Social Aspects of Palliative Care

Family &  
Friend  
Support

Caregiver  
Well-being,  
Availability

Housing &  
Living  
Arrangements

Work &  
Home Life

Finances

Insurance,  
Access to care

Health  
Literacy

Community  
Resources



# Spiritual Aspects of Palliative Care

Meaning

Hope vs.  
Despair

Connection vs.  
Isolation

Regrets &  
Reconciliation

Forgiveness

Existential  
questions,  
concerns

Religious belief  
system &  
concerns

# Cultural Aspects of Palliative Care

Age & Gender

Racial & Ethnic  
Identity

Language Spoken

Communication  
Style

Family Structure

Information &  
Decision-Making

Experience of  
Health Care  
System

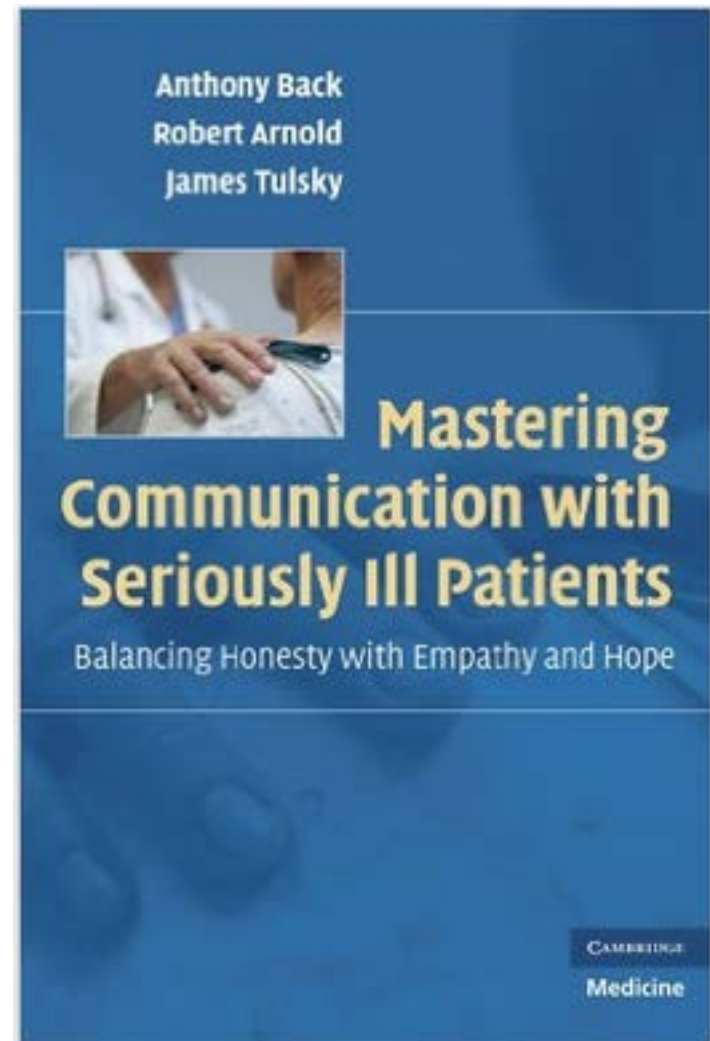
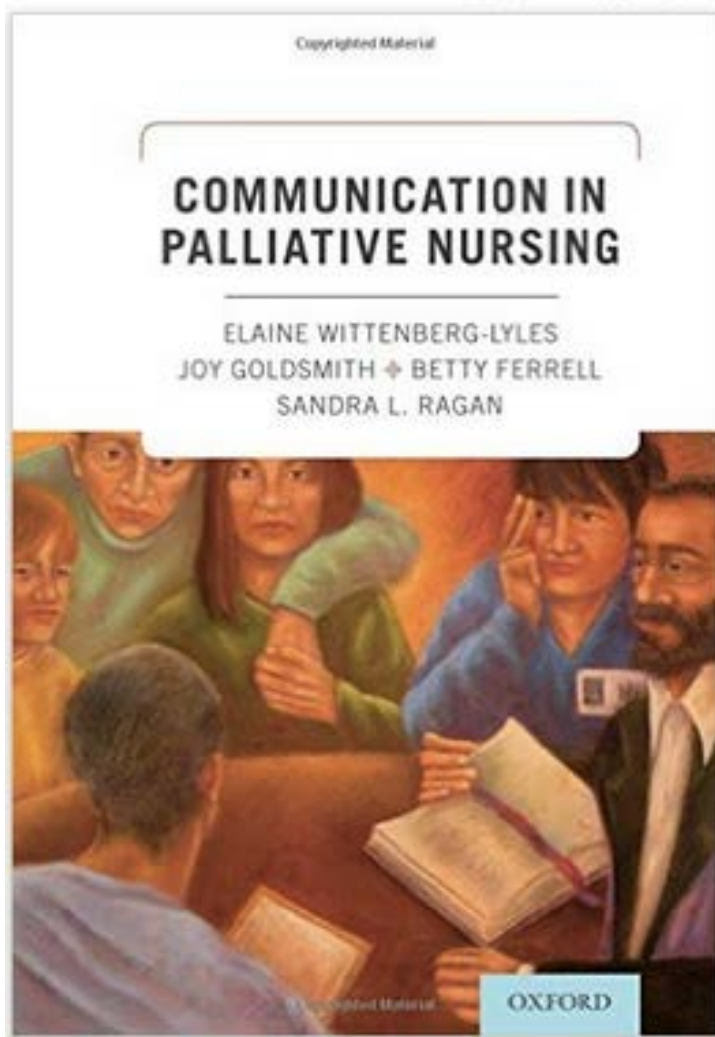
Rituals

“When you think about what lies ahead, what worries you the most?”



VitalTips app; [www.vitaltalk.org](http://www.vitaltalk.org)

# Communication Resources





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## Take Home Points:

- 1. Prepare and practice the strategies for dyspnea management before a crisis occurs*
- 2. Seek out the input of multiple professions and appreciate the value of each unique perspective*
- 3. Palliative care is a resource for seriously ill patients, not just terminal patients*
- 4. Save time and improve understanding by addressing emotion before information*



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# Thank you

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