The following criteria will support a prognosis of six months or less if the terminal illness runs its normal course for patients with Cancer on initial certification.

**Non-disease specific hospice baseline guidelines: (both 1 and 2 should be met)**
1) **Physiologic impairment of function status** as demonstrated by Kamofsky Performance Status (KPS) or Palliative Performance Score (PPS) ≤ 70% due to progression of disease
2) **Dependence** on assistance for 2 or more activities of daily living (ADLs):
   - Feeding
   - Ambulation
   - Continence
   - Bathing
   - Dressing
   - Transfer

**PLUS**

**Disease Specific Guidelines:** (A or B1 or B2)
A. □ Disease with **distant metastases** at presentation
   **OR**
B. **Progression from an earlier stage** of disease to metastatic disease **with either:**
   1) □ A **continued decline** in spite of definitive therapy
   **OR**
   2) □ Patient **declines further disease directed therapy**
   **OR**

Certain cancers with poor prognoses (e.g., small cell lung cancer and pancreatic cancer) may be hospice eligible **without fulfilling the other criteria in this section.**
   - Small cell lung cancer
   - Pancreatic cancer

**Note:** Lack of certain documentation such as tissue diagnosis for cancer will not create non-eligibility for the hospice benefit but does necessitate other supportive documentation.

**Comorbidities:** A diagnosis that is not the primary hospice diagnosis nor related to the primary hospice diagnosis, but the presence and severity of such disease is likely to contribute to a life expectancy of 6 months or less. Such diseases are not related to the hospice diagnosis and do not therefore imply financial responsibility under the hospice benefit.
   - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
   - Diabetes Mellitus
   - Renal failure
   - Congestive heart failure (CHF)
   - Liver disease
   - Neoplasia
   - Neurological disease (CVA, MS, Parkinson’s)
   - Ischemic heart disease
   - Dementia
   - Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)

These determinants and indicators reflect the criteria sets established by the NHPCO Clinical Indicators (1996) and CAHABA (7/31/03) and are endorsed by Hospice of Marion County.