

**Hospice of Marion County
Guideline for Determining Terminal Prognosis – Cancer – Initial**

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) \leq 70% due to progression of disease
- 2) **Dependence** on assistance for **2 or more** activities of daily living (ADLs):

<input type="checkbox"/> Feeding	<input type="checkbox"/> Ambulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Continence
<input type="checkbox"/> Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Bathing	<input type="checkbox"/> Dressing

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.

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|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) | <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes Mellitus | <input type="checkbox"/> Renal failure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congestive heart failure (CHF) | <input type="checkbox"/> Liver disease | <input type="checkbox"/> Neoplasia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neurological disease (CVA, MS, Parkinson's) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ischemic heart disease | <input type="checkbox"/> Dementia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) | | |

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