Part 1:
1. Karnofsky Performance Status (KPS) or Palliative Performance Scale (PPS) of 40% or less
2. Inability to maintain hydration and caloric intake with one of the following:
   A. Weight loss >10% in the last 6 months or 7.5% in the last 3 months
   B. Serum albumin <2.5 gm/dl
   C. Current history of pulmonary aspiration not responsive to speech language pathology intervention
   D. Sequential calorie counts documenting inadequate caloric/fluid intake
   E. Dysphagia severe enough to prevent the patient from receiving food and fluids necessary to sustain life in a patient who declines or does not receive artificial nutrition and hydration.

Part II. Non-disease specific baseline guidelines
- Hospital readmission with the same admitting diagnosis, 3 hospital admissions within 60 days or readmission within 72 hours of hospital discharge.
- Physiologic impairment of functional status as demonstrated by: Karnofsky Performance Status (KPS) or Palliative Performance Score (PCS) <70%.
- Dependence on assistance for two or more activities of daily living (ADLs)
- Progressive stage 3-4 pressure ulcers in spite of optimal care

Part III. Co-morbidities
Although not the primary hospice diagnosis, the presence of disease, the severity of which is likely to contribute to a life expectancy of six months or less, should be considered in determining hospice eligibility.

For more information, please contact Mercy Hospice:
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