

Supplemental Table 1. Checklist for the Collection of Information

Treatment and care	Medical history <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What are the most urgent medical problems at present? – Have all useful diagnostic procedures been carried out? – What is the therapeutic benefit of the current treatment plan? – What is the risk of complications of the treatment? – How big is the burden for the patient? 	Problems of care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What are at present the most urgent problems regarding nursing care? – What kind and how much of support does the patient need? – Are there specific arrangements with the family? – Is there specific information available only to members of the therapeutic disciplines? 	Prognosis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What is the short-term prognosis? – What is the long-term prognosis? – What is the prognosis without treatment? – What experiences have been made in similar cases? – What restrictions to the independence can be expected? What is the expected quality of life?
Patient	Preferences/way of living <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What is important for the patient? – Does he/she have any hobbies, which are important to him/her? – If there is a chronic illness, how has the patient dealt with it up to now? – What is the patient's philosophy about life? – Does the patient belong to a religious community? – Is there a need for pastoral care, or is/are the patient and/or the relatives currently served by a pastor? – What was the quality of life and level of independence before the present illness? 	Patient's will <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Is the patient capable of making decisions? Is their power of judgement limited or uncertain? – Are there any statements about the patient will from the immediate past, e.g., during a preoperative discussion? – Is there a living will? If so, how current is it, and is it applicable to the present situation? – Is there evidence that the patient's will has changed in the meantime? – Has the patient made any statements about his/her wishes before the current hospitalization? – How reliable is the information about the presumed will mentioned by the relatives? – Is there a clear distinction between the wishes of the patient and those of the relatives? 	Risk factors for under- or unequal treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Advanced age – Female gender – Low socioeconomic status – Ethnic minority – Living alone – Chronic disease – Multimorbidity – High intensity of care – Incompetence of judgment – Mental illness – Dementia – Terminal illness Risk factors for over-treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Do you assess the situation to be at risk for over-treatment?
Social environment and local parameters	Social environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – How is the social environment? – To what degree are the relatives informed? – To what degree are the relatives involved in the decision-making process? – What is the attitude of the relatives? – Are there particular problems with the relatives? 	Structural conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Are potential therapies offered by the hospital of residence? – Is there currently a shortage of staff? – Are there enough time resources for potential treatment options? – Are there incentives for over-treatment during such situations? 	Other information