

## Practical Considerations to Enhance Culturally Sensitive Communication: Adapting the Serious Illness Conversation Guide for Patients from Diverse Communities.

### Authors

Justin J Sanders, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Ariadne Labs, Boston, MA  
Elizabeth Beddard-Huber, RN, MSN, CHPCN(C), BC Centre for Palliative Care  
Nicole Wikjord, RN, MN, CHPCN(C), Clinical Nurse Specialist, First Nations Health Authority

### Objective

1. Participants will be able to describe the rationale and process of adapting clinical tools to enhance cultural appropriateness for use in diverse communities, with a focus on an adaptation with First Nations.

### Abstract

The Serious Illness Conversation Guide (SICG), developed by Ariadne Labs, has gained increasing acceptance as a primary clinical tool to enhance the quality of advance care planning for patients with serious illness. Consisting of a series of open-ended questions and language that assists in the delivery of patient-centered prognoses and elicitation of patients' goals, values, and priorities, the SICG builds on insights from Palliative Care experts and serves as a framework for best communication practices. Despite acceptability testing with African Americans with low education and health literacy in the Southern U.S., the guide was developed in a population of predominantly White, well-educated, urban patients in the Northeastern U.S. The Vancouver Coastal Health Authority in BC has led efforts to translate the guide into over 11 languages and the BC Centre for Palliative Care, in collaboration with the First Nations Health Authority, has adapted the SICG to reflect cultural safety. In this workshop, leaders from the BC Centre for Palliative Care, First Nations Health Authority, and Ariadne Labs, will discuss the rationale and practical considerations for adapting any number of clinical tools, using experience gained with adaptation of the SICG. Participants will gain exposure to the SICG, including the rationale of its various components and will learn about the specific processes used to engage the BC First Nations communities in the adaptation of the SICG.

### Keywords:

Cultural safety, Communication, Adaptation