

Case Study #1

Mrs. S is a 79-year-old female recently admitted with recurrent small bowel obstruction in the setting of metastatic breast cancer

- **Medical:** not a surgical candidate and there are no further systemic treatments
- **Psychosocial:** originally from India and has lived in Canada for over 30 years
 - Lives with husband, two daughters, and one son
 - Has two older brothers and a younger sister who all live locally.
 - Husband is 83 and has moderate dementia.
 - Hindi is her first language, limited English.
- **Goals of care**
 - Patient identifies “the family” as her TSDM and has defaulted to the family for discussions regarding her care and discharge planning.
 - Is full code

Based on your experiences, what challenges could you anticipate or have seen given the patient/family situation above?

Case Study #2

Mr. A is a 75-year-old male who was admitted to the hospital due to recurrent pleural effusions in the setting of metastatic lung cancer and a newly inserted pleural drain catheter

- **Medical:** cancer showed recent progression with extensive bony metastases and has no further systemic or targeted treatments
- **Psychosocial:** originally from Sri Lanka and has lived in Canada for 25 years
 - Lives at home alone
 - Has 2 daughters who live in the area.
 - Speaks English
- **Goals of care**
 - TSDM is unclear.
 - MOST level is DNR M3

Based on your experiences, what challenges could you anticipate or have seen given the patient/family situation above?