

GUIDELINES WITH DIVERSITY

Guidelines and Things to Think About when Working with People from Culturally Diverse Backgrounds

1. Understand one's own personal and cultural values about life, death, and dying.
2. Strive to facilitate communication with the terminally ill person through verbal and nonverbal communication.
3. Accept that the client's understanding and desire for advance directives may differ from that of the health professional.
4. Recognize and accept the patient's need for closeness or distance
5. Acknowledge the patient's decisions about the use of pain medications
6. Understand the patient's need to have contact with the family members of all ages.
7. Avoid interpreting all behavior as stemming from the patient's terminal illness.
8. Practice acceptance, empathy, compassion, and be aware of and understand your own boundaries.