

Patient Classification - Criteria

- 1) **Highest Needs Patients (Red List):**
 - Patients who are considered to be actively dying, especially those at home
 - Inpatients
 - Patients who have difficulty with pain and symptom management, patients who require frequent medication changes or frequent medical/nursing assessments and interventions
 - Patients and family members whose emotional, spiritual, social, and practical needs require frequent medical/nursing/social work/volunteer assessments and interventions
 - Families experiencing caregiver stress; caregiver at risk for burnout or ineffective coping; or patient alone – no caregiver available
 - Patients/family who indicate difficulty accepting the diagnosis or prognosis

Frequency of Contact for Highest Needs Patients (Red List):

 - Requires **one or more contacts per week**
 - Requires frequent home visits
- 2) **Medium Needs Patients (Yellow List):**
 - Patients, whose pain and symptoms are relatively stable, require regularly scheduled, but frequent follow-up
 - Patients and family members who have adequate support
 - Patients and family members who report adequate understanding of illness, prognosis and treatment plan
 - Patients whose prognosis indicates a change in the level of care is anticipated.

Frequency of Contact for Medium needs Patients (Yellow List):

 - Requires contact once **every two weeks**
 - Home visits as needed.
- 3) **Lowest Needs Patients (Green List):**
 - Patient's pain and symptoms are stable.
 - Patients and family members have need for less frequent involvement from the Palliative Care Team
 - There is no indication of imminent change in the patient's level of care
 - There are adequate resources; a good support network, and the patient and family members have a good understanding of the plans for care

Frequency of contact for Lowest Needs Patients (Green List):

 - Requires contact **once per month**
 - Requires home visit once every three months
- 4) **Hold**
 - Patients who are in another facility outside the district
 - Patient's request
 - Remission of disease
- 5) **Recently Deceased (4-6 weeks):**
- 6) **Discharge Criteria :**
 - If everything is found to be satisfactory with no active issues, then the nurse will discuss with the patient/family and if agreed, then the patient will be discharged from the service
 - Family physician will be notified
- 7) **Deceased**

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