

# ICU Early REMAP Script

**Scenario: A 60-year-old man with metastatic lung cancer is admitted with septic shock. The patient is intubated in the ED, on vasopressors, and has AKI.**

ICU Clinician	Surrogate Decision Maker
Thank you for meeting today. We'll start with introductions. I'm [NAME AND ROLE].	
	I'm [name], John's child.
We want to update you on how John's doing and learn more about him as a person so that we can make sure we're giving him the best care possible. What else would you like to make sure we address today [AGENDA SETTING]?	
	That's it, I think.
To make sure we share information that's most helpful to you, can you tell us what your understanding is so far about what's going on with your Dad's health [FIRST ASK]?	
	He's been dealing with this cancer for two years, now and it has spread from his lungs to his liver. But he was doing well with the chemo and feeling okay until a few days ago. Then he got sick really quickly. I know that he has a really bad infection in his blood.
You're exactly right about the infection causing him to get sick quickly [RESPECT]. May I share my understanding of what's going on and what may be ahead with his health [PERMISSION]?	
	Yes, of course.
The infection that your dad has is so serious that it has affected other organs in his body like his lungs and kidneys.	
	So, what can you do to treat him?
We're doing everything we can to treat the infection with antibiotics and support him with	

ICU Clinician	Surrogate Decision Maker
<p>the breathing machine and all the other ICU care that he needs. We hope that he will recover . . . <b>and</b> we also worry that because of the cancer, he is at higher risk of dying from this infection [TELL USING HOPE <b>AND</b> WORRY FORMAT].</p>	<p>He has been doing well with cancer treatments. This doesn't make sense [EMOTION].</p>
<p>It sounds like it is a huge shock to see him get so sick so fast [NAME].</p>	<p>It is. We just went out to dinner last week for my son's birthday [DE-ESCALATE].</p>
<p>I can only imagine how hard this is [UNDERSTAND].</p>	<p>He has so much to live for. Thank you for all that you're doing for him [FURTHER DE-ESCALATE].</p>
<p>You're welcome. What questions do you have so far?</p>	<p>I don't have any other questions right now.</p>
<p>So that we can take better care of your dad, would it be okay if we talk about him as a person [PERMISSION]?</p>	<p>Okay.</p>
<p>What is important to him when he isn't in the hospital [MAP]?</p>	<p>He lives for his grandkids, my son and daughter. He tries to get to as many of their games and recitals as he can.</p>
<p>They are lucky kids. What else is important [MAP]?</p>	<p>He lives alone and is always fixing something up around his house. He has been fighting me on getting more help for the yardwork.</p>
<p>Sounds like he is hardworking and independent [ALIGN].</p>	<p>Yes, always.</p>

**ICU Clinician****Surrogate Decision Maker**

What has he shared about his biggest worries related to his health [MAP]?

He's always worried about being a burden to me. He hates when I miss work to come to an appointment with him.

What has given him strength as he faced this cancer [MAP]?

My kids, of course, they make him pictures and say he gives the best hugs. Also his faith. He's been a member of the same church for over 30 years, so everyone is praying for him.

I'm glad he has a faith community to support him.

Yeah, Me too. They've been so helpful.

Have you and your dad ever talked about how much he would be willing to go through for the possibility of gaining more time in a situation like this where he was really sick [MAP]?

I know he would want to live. He wants more time with us. But he also wouldn't want to be a vegetable.

Can you tell me more about what you mean when you say that [EXPLORE]?

He wouldn't want to be stuck in a bed if he wasn't going to get better and have everyone just hovering around.

Thank for sharing so much about your dad [RESPECT]. It sounds like family, faith, and independence are important to him, and he would want to receive all treatments possible if there was a reasonable chance he could get back to the life that he loves, spending time with family.

Yes, that sounds right.

It also sounds like perhaps he wouldn't want to be stuck on life support machines long term if he wasn't getting better.

**ICU Clinician**

**Surrogate Decision Maker**

No, he would never want that.

Thank you for sharing more about your dad. It helps us to take better care of him [RESPECT].

He is so important to me.

Would it be okay to talk about a plan to best meet your dad's priorities going forward?

Of course.

We can continue the antibiotics and supportive treatments to try to help him recover from this infection. As soon as it is safe, we will have our physical therapy team start working with him so that we can help preserve his strength. We can also have one of our chaplains check in to offer support.

He would appreciate that.

We will continue to give you daily updates. Let's also plan to sit down and meet again in 3 days at 2PM. Does that work for you?

Yes, that works.

We will let you know how he is doing and hopefully will see signs of recovery like coming off the ventilator and improvement in how his kidneys are working. We will also let you know if things are not getting better or are getting worse, and we will work with you to make decisions that are in line with your dad's wishes.

I'm counting on him to get better. I don't think it's his time yet.

We will do everything we can to help him [SUPPORT].

Thank you.