



*Medicare guidelines
for hospice eligibility:*

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

WE ACCEPT THOSE WITH THE FOLLOWING SIGNS OF SEVERE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE:

- Incontinent of bowel and bladder
- Unable to dress or bathe without assistance
- FAST scale stage 7A or greater: Ability to speak is limited to approximately a half-dozen different intelligible words or fewer in an average day or the course of an intensive interview.
- Should have had one or more of the following conditions present within the past 12 months:
 - Multiple pressure ulcers, stages 3-4
 - Pyelonephritis or septicemia
 - Fever recurrent after antibiotics
 - Unintentional weight loss of at least 10% in the last 6 months
 - Aspiration pneumonia
 - Serum albumin < 2.5 g/dl

OTHER SUPPORTING SIGNS BUT NOT REQUIRED:

- FAST 7B: Use of only a single intelligible word in an average day or in the course of an intensive interview
- FAST 7C: Ambulatory ability is lost (cannot walk without personal assistance)
- FAST 7D: Ability to sit up without assistance lost (will fall over without lateral supports)
- FAST 7E: Loss of ability to smile
- FAST 7F: Loss of ability to hold head up independently
- Dysphagia leading to recurrent aspiration/Inadequate oral intake documented by decreasing food portion consumption
- Other chronic disease diagnoses such as cardiac or pulmonary diseases, neurological diseases, diabetes, etc.

"In the journey of life's twilight, hospice is not a shortcut; it's a chosen route for a gentler passage."

If your patient meets the above criteria, call us today to schedule a consultation or same-day assessment. **888.517.8100**

Early identification enables maximum comfort and support for patients and families.