DOMAINS OF ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH ILLNESS AND BEREAVEMENT

Physical
- Pain and other symptoms
- Level of consciousness, cognition
- Function, safety, aids (motor, senses, physiologic, sexual)
- Fluids, nutrition
- Wounds
- Habits

Psychological
- Personality, strengths, behaviour, motivation
- Depression, anxiety
- Emotions
- Fears
- Control, dignity, independence
- Conflict, guilt, stress, coping responses
- Self-image, self-esteem

Person and Family Characteristics
- Demographics
- Culture
- Personal values, beliefs, practices and strengths
- Developmental stage, education, literacy
- Disabilities

Social
- Cultural values, beliefs, practices
- Relationships, roles with family/friends, community
- Isolation, abandonment, reconciliation
- Safe environment
- Privacy, intimacy
- Routines, recreation, vacation
- Legal issues
- Family/caregiver protection
- Guardianship, custody issues

Practical
- Activities of daily living (e.g. personal care, household activities)
- Dependents, pets
- Telephone access, transportation

End-of-Life Care/Death Management
- Life closure (e.g. completing business, closing relationships)
- Gift giving
- Legacy creation
- Preparation for expected death
- Anticipation and management of physiological changes in the last hours of life
- Rites, rituals
- Pronouncement, certification
- Perideath care of family, handling of body
- Funerals, services, celebrations

Loss, Grief
- Loss
- Grief (e.g. acute, chronic, anticipatory)
- Bereavement planning
- Mourning

Disease Management
- Primary diagnosis, prognosis, evidence
- Secondary diagnosis (e.g. dementia, psychiatric diagnoses, substance use, trauma)
- Co-morbidities (e.g. delirium, seizures, organ failure)
- Adverse events (e.g. side effects, toxicity)
- Allergies

Ferris et al., 2002

Source: A Model to Guide Hospice Palliative Care: Based on National Principles and Norms of Practice. Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association (CHPCA). March 2002.