

Bilingual Glossary of Palliative Care Terms English-Vietnamese

Term	English Definition	Vietnamese Equivalent
advance directive ⁱ	Advance directives are legal documents that describe a patient's treatment preferences and designate a surrogate decision-maker in the event that the person should become unable to make medical decisions for him or herself. Advance directives generally fall into two categories: those that designate surrogate decision makers (power of attorney for health care, healthcare agent), and those that designate care instructions (living will, POLST).	chỉ thị trước
advance care planning	Decisions made by patients about their wishes regarding interventions and care if a physical condition made it impossible for them to communicate their wishes in the moment.	lập kế hoạch chăm sóc trước
artificial nutrition and hydration	Means of life support providing calories, vitamins and minerals, either through feeding tubes or intravenously, to a patient who cannot eat or drink sufficiently by normal means.	truyền dinh dưỡng và nước nhân tạo
autopsy	An examination of the body in order to determine the cause of death, involving dissection of the remains.	khám nghiệm tử thi
bereavement counseling	Counseling to help deal with on-going sadness regarding a loved one who has died or who is dying.	tư vấn về việc mất người thân
brain death	A clinical condition in which the most basic functions of the brain are gone, including basic reflexes and control of breathing, so that life can only be maintained through artificial means.	chết não
caregiver	A person who provides direct care for a patient. Caregivers can be professionals, such as Home Health Aides, or simply caring individuals such as family and friends.	người chăm sóc

Interpreting for Palliative Care

Term	English Definition	Vietnamese Equivalent
chaplain ⁱⁱ	An individual professionally trained to offer spiritual and emotional support to patients, families, and staff, addressing issues of meaning, hope, and transcendence during illness, injury, or crisis. Chaplains are interfaith providers who work with people of all beliefs, including those who are unaffiliated with a religion. In addition to providing pastoral care, they help with end-of-life planning, act as patient advocates, and help coordinate religious and spiritual services	cha tuyên úy
coma	A state of profound unconsciousness caused by disease, injury or poison.	hôn mê
code status	A patient's "code status" tells providers whether a patient should be resuscitated or not should cardiac or respiratory arrest occur.	mã chỉ định hồi sinh
comfort care	Treatments that focus only on promoting comfort, not prolonging life artificially	chăm sóc an ủi
coping skills	The skills needed to emotionally handle difficult situations in life	kỹ năng đối phó
coroner	A public official who investigates by inquest any death not due to natural causes. Coroners are usually elected officials, who may or may not possess any special training in investigating the cause of death.	nhân viên điều tra các vụ chết bất thường
CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) ⁱ	The emergency substitution of heart and lung action to restore life to someone who has ceased to breathe and whose heart is not pumping. The two main components of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) are chest compressions to force blood from the heart to the body, and artificial breathing by forcing air into the lungs (through mouth-to-mouth breathing or through medical equipment).	hồi sức tim phổi
do-not-resuscitate order (DNR) ⁱⁱⁱ	A doctor's written instructions not to attempt cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on a specific patient in the event of cardiac or respiratory arrest. The DNR order should be noted in a person's medical chart like any other medical order, and may be filed at hospitals, in private practice, with local emergency services, and with companies such as MedicAlert (which provides a bracelet to wear).	chỉ định không hồi sinh

Interpreting for Palliative Care

Term	English Definition	Vietnamese Equivalent
durable power of attorney ¹	A legal document in which a patient designates a specific individual to take legal action on his/her behalf in the case of an incapacitating medical condition. The general durable power of attorney allows an individual to make bank transactions, sign Social Security checks, apply for disability, or simply write checks to pay the utility bill while an individual is medically incapacitated. Compare with “durable power of attorney for health care.”	quyền đại diện dài hạn
durable power of attorney for health care	A legal document in which a patient designates a specific individual to make <u>healthcare</u> decisions on his or her behalf. A durable power of attorney for health care should not be confused with a “durable power of attorney,” which is a completely different document which gives the surrogate decision maker power over <u>financial</u> decisions. When healthcare providers talk about a “durable power of attorney,” they usually mean a durable power of attorney for health care.	quyền đại diện dài hạn về chăm sóc sức khỏe
feeding tube	A tube placed into the stomach or small intestine to provide nutrition to a person who cannot eat or drink.	ống nuôi ăn
funeral home	A commercial entity that prepares the deceased for burial or cremation and assists in preparing a funeral.	nhà tang lễ
goals of care	A patient or family’s desired outcome(s) from his or her medical care. In some cases, a complete eradication of a disease is the goal of care, while in others, the goal is to control pain, or to recover a degree of mobility.	mục tiêu chăm sóc
healthcare agent (also called healthcare proxy in some states)	A legal document in which an individual designates another person to make health care decisions for them if they cannot participate in medical decision-making, for any reason. This term also refers to the person who has been so designated. The healthcare agent has, in essence, the same rights to request or refuse treatment that the individual would have if capable of making and communicating decisions.	ủy quyền chăm sóc sức khỏe
health status	The condition of an individual’s health.	tình hình sức khỏe
heart/lung machine	A machine that artificially takes over the function of the lungs and heart.	máy trợ tim/phổi

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Term	English Definition	Vietnamese Equivalent
home health aide	A trained and certified healthcare worker who monitors a home-bound patient's condition and assists with personal hygiene and light housework.	người hỗ trợ chăm sóc sức khỏe tại gia
hospice care ⁱⁱⁱ	A special way of caring for people with terminal illnesses by meeting the patient's physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs, as well as the needs of the family. The goals of hospice are to keep the patient as comfortable as possible by relieving pain and other symptoms; to prepare for a death that follows the wishes and needs of the patient; and to reassure both the patient and family members by helping them to understand and manage what is happening. To be eligible for hospice care, a physician must indicate that the patient is likely to die within six months.	chăm sóc cuối đời
immediate family	A patient's closest relatives, usually considered to be parents, siblings, spouse and children.	gia đình trực hệ
intensive care unit (ICU) ⁱⁱⁱ	A specialized part of the hospital designed for care of the critically ill whose conditions require constant monitoring.	khoa chăm sóc tập trung
intubation ⁱ	Endotracheal intubation is a procedure by which a tube is inserted through the mouth down into the trachea in order to enable mechanical ventilation, in a patient who cannot safely breathe on his or her own. Also referred to as "inserting an airway."	đặt ống
life support	Equipment, material or treatment used to keep a seriously ill patient alive: e.g. artificial nutrition such as a feeding tube, mechanical ventilation, dialysis.	hỗ trợ sự sống
living will ⁱ	A written document that specifies what types of medical treatments are desired under specific circumstances. The most common statement in a living will is to the effect that: If I suffer an incurable, irreversible illness, disease, or condition and my attending physician determines that my condition is terminal, I direct that life-sustaining measures that would serve only to prolong my dying be withheld or discontinued. More specific living wills may include an individual's desire for such services such as analgesia (pain relief), antibiotics, hydration, feeding, and the use of ventilators or cardiopulmonary resuscitation.	di chúc sống

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Term	English Definition	Vietnamese Equivalent
long-term care	A healthcare facility that provides nursing care to patients over an extended period of time.	chăm sóc dài hạn
Medical Examiner	A qualified physician, often with advanced training in forensic pathology (the application of medical knowledge to questions of the law), who investigates deaths not due to natural causes. Medical examiners are usually appointed to the position.	Nhân Viên Pháp Y
metastasis	The spread of a disease (usually cancer) from the initial site to another part of the body.	di căn
morgue	In a hospital, an area where the body of the deceased is kept under refrigeration until the funeral home can arrange for transport to the mortuary.	nhà xác
next of kin	A legal term referring to the person or persons most closely related by blood to an individual. While not related by blood, a spouse is usually included as “next of kin.”	người có quan hệ thân thuộc nhất
organ donation	The act of giving permission for a patient’s organs to be harvested after his death for transplantation into another individual	hiến tặng nội tạng
persistent vegetative state (PVS) ^{iv}	A clinical condition of complete unawareness of the self and environment. Even though PVS patients may exhibit sleep wake cycles, they show no evidence of response to or understanding of environmental stimuli. Unlike with a coma, there is no reasonable hope for recovery for those in a PVS. Although life expectancy for patients in a PVS is between two and five years, there are a number of cases where PVS patients are sustained on life support for decades. It has been estimated that there are somewhere between 15,000 and 35,000 PVS patients being sustained in the U.S. at any given time.	trạng thái thực vật lâu dài
POLST	Provider Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment. POLST is a medical order form for seriously ill or frail individuals, valid outside of hospitals, that communicates the person’s medical wishes during emergencies. A POLST is filled out by a provider in conversation with the patient, takes effect immediately upon signing and is honored by emergency medical personnel.	Lệnh Bác Sĩ Điều Trị Duy Trì Mạng Sống

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Term	English Definition	Vietnamese Equivalent
prognosis	The likelihood of recovery from a disease or trauma, based on the normal course of the disease/condition or on the special circumstances of a particular case. When discussing terminal illnesses, some providers may use "prognosis" to mean "the estimated time remaining to live."	tiên lượng bệnh
quality of life	An expression of the actions, experiences, or feelings that make life worth living, for an individual patient.	chất lượng sống
respite care	A program that either sends temporary caretakers to a patient's home or allows a patient to be admitted to a healthcare facility temporarily, in order to give the principal caregiver a break.	dịch vụ chăm sóc thay tạm thời
restlessness	The inability to stay still, often involuntary	bất an
skilled nursing facility ⁱⁱ	A residential facility that provides professional nursing care around the clock, usually along with rehabilitation	cơ sở điều dưỡng chuyên môn
support	Actions and attitudes that help an individual or group. In palliative care, when providers talk about patient "support," they do not mean financial help but usually emotional and logistical help.	hỗ trợ
surrogate decision-maker	Technically, the legal definition of a "surrogate" is an individual other than a designated health care agent or guardian who is authorized to make health care decisions for a patient who lacks capacity to do so, according to Hawaii Revised Statutes § 327E-2. This can be a person designated by the patient or appointed by a physician if no agent or guardian is available. The surrogate is legally required to make decisions based on the patient's known wishes, values, or best interests However, medical professionals often refer to a "surrogate decision maker" as anyone who is making decisions for another person.	người ra quyết định thay thế
ventilator ⁱⁱ	A machine that takes over breathing for the patient, controlling the intake and expiration of air	máy hô hấp nhân tạo

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withdrawal of support	The removal of all forms of life support such as a ventilator, a feeding tube, or other treatment used to keep a seriously ill patient alive.	rút lại sự hỗ trợ

ⁱ Definition from www.eMedicinehealth.com.

ⁱⁱ Definition from <http://www.mywhatever.com/cifwriter/content/66/4620.html>.

ⁱⁱⁱ Definition from <http://www.pbs.org/secondopinion/episodes/endoflife/medicalglossary/story436.html>.

^{iv} Definition from <http://www.dickinson.edu/endoflife/Glossary.html>

has non-biased, accurate Information on advanced care planning, advance directives, POLST and options for serious illness care including palliative care and hospice care: <https://kokuamau.org/>

We have translations and materials for interpreters in 13 languages at kokuamau.org/languages/