

Recipe for designing a decision aid

The key to designing a decision aid for advance care planning in a high-risk surgery setting is knowing the tools and ingredients to use to build it.

Tools:

- Engage with patients
- Engage with surgeons
- Gauge the setting

Ingredients:

- 1 part shift focus from end-of-life
- 1 part elicit patient values & goals
- 1 part prompt naming surrogate & having discussions

Directions:

Mix together the ingredients while engaging with patients and surgeons to ensure that the aid meets their needs and to situate the aid in a conducive setting.

Tips for success:

- Keep it simple
- Make it adaptable
- Show its effectiveness