

**WHAT IS MY  
PROGNOSIS?**

**WHAT ARE MY  
OPTIONS?**

**WILL I GET BETTER?**

**AM I GOING TO DIE?**

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN  
NEXT?**

**WILL I HAVE PAIN?**

**I WANT TO DISCUSS  
MY DECISIONS**

**I WANT MY FAMILY  
TO DECIDE**

**WHEN WILL I COME  
OFF THE  
VENTILATOR?**

**WHAT HAPPENS IF I  
AM TAKEN OFF THE  
VENTILATOR?**

**I AM NOT READY TO  
MAKE A DECISION**

**I HAVE ANOTHER  
QUESTION**

**MAYBE**

**DON'T KNOW**

**LATER**

# If it's hard for patient to point, please use "partner-assisted scanning"



## This is how:

Ask patient to focus on the communication board and find the message they want to communicate.  
Establish patient's "yes" (i.e. nodding, blinking, thumbs up, etc.)

- 1. Proceed row by row. Point to each row and ask if the desired message is in that row**  
(e.g. point to 1st row and ask, "Is it in this row?" followed by 2nd row, and so on)
- 3. Patient will select a row using the established YES response. Verify the choice out loud.**
- 4. Point to each message within the selected row ("Is it suction?" "Trouble breathing," etc.).**
- 4. Patient will signal that you are pointing to the desired message using established YES response.**
- 5. Confirm the selection & repeat.**

### Additional Considerations:

- Hold this tool ~12 inches (~30 cm) from the patient's face.
- Ensure good lighting, head positioning, and vision.
- Speak **loudly** and **clearly** using **simple language**.
- Wearing masks and other PPE may make it difficult to understand speech. Consider using communication tools when speaking to the patient as well.
- If the patient can't use this tool effectively now, that does not mean the patient won't be able to use it later today, tomorrow, or this week. Continue to provide opportunities to support communication.

