

**BARRIERS TO CARE  
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NURSES AND SOCIAL WORKERS**

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
END-OF-LIFE CARE RESEARCH PROGRAM

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## BARRIERS TO CARE

We know that there may be barriers to helping a patient and family in the ICU. In this survey, we have listed some possible barriers you may have encountered working with this family. Please circle one answer for each item.

### Barriers in working with families in the ICU:

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|--|-----|----|
| 1. Not enough nursing staff/heavy patient load                                     | YES | NO |
| 2. Patient too sick to allow interaction with family                               | YES | NO |
| 3. Conflict with physician(s)  | YES | NO |
| 4. Physician/s discouraged nurse/staff communication with family on certain topics | YES | NO |
| 5. Lack of support from nurse/social work colleagues for family communication.     | YES | NO |
| 6. Outside the scope of my nursing/social work practice                            | YES | NO |
| 7. Unit's visitation policy allows little time with family                         | YES | NO |
| 8. Family does not visit or call   | YES | NO |
| 9. Lack of communication between attending physician and nursing/social work staff | YES | NO |
| 10. The family is angry  | YES | NO |
| 11. The family has unrealistic expectations of medical treatment                   | YES | NO |
| 12. Personal difficulty with <u>this</u> family                                    | YES | NO |
| 13. Lack of a private place for communication to occur                             | YES | NO |
| 14. Language difficulties  | YES | NO |
| 15. Other barriers? <i>If yes, please specify</i> _____                            | YES | NO |

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