

## Dementia

1. Patient must have **ALL** of these signs and symptoms:

- Unable to walk without assistance
- Unable to dress themselves
- Need help for bathing and grooming
- Unable to consistently control bowel and bladder
- Might use some language, but unable to converse effectively

2. They may also have experienced at least **ONE** of the following in the last year:

- Serious lung or kidney infection (pneumonia; pyelonephritis)
- Sepsis
- Severe open pressure ulcers (stage 3-4 decubiti)
- Persistent fever, even after antibiotics
- Weight loss of >10% in last 6 months or serum albumin <3.0gm/dl
- Recent hospitalization
- Mitchell Mortality Risk Indicator score  $\geq 9$  (See Appendix 4)

**In the absence of one or more of the above findings, rapid decline or co-morbidities may also support eligibility for hospice care.**