**Candidates for Serious Illness Conversation**

**Surprise Question:**

**Would I be surprised if this patient were not alive in two years?**

**EXAMPLES:**

1. **Cancer**
   1. **Stage III or IV of any type**
   2. **Malignant brain tumor**
   3. **Multiple myeloma, acute leukemia, CML**
2. **End Organ Failure**
   1. **CHF – NYHA functional class IV, frequent admissions, Seattle heart score**
   2. **COPD – low FEV1, O2 -dependent, frequent admissions**
   3. **CKD/ESRD – poor functional status**
   4. **ESLD – encephalopathy, variceal bleeds, HRS**
   5. **Diabetes with severe vascular disease and poor functional status**
3. **Neurologic and Neurodegenerative Disease**
   1. **Stroke (s) with poor functional status**
   2. **Dementia – weight loss, bed-bound, behavioral disturbances (FAST score)**
   3. **ALS with pending respiratory failure, poor swallow, declining function**
   4. **Advanced Parkinson’s disease**
4. **Frailty (usually with advanced age)**
   1. **Weight loss**
   2. **Limited or non-ambulatory**
   3. **Increased sleeping, decreased alertness**
   4. **Low albumin, hemoglobin, cholesterol**