I’d like to talk together about what’s happening with _____’s nutrition and what matters to them. Would this be okay?

To make sure I share information that’s helpful to you, can you tell me your understanding of what’s going on with _____’s nutrition now?

How much information about what might be ahead with _____’s nutrition would be helpful?

I want to share my understanding of where things are with _____’s nutrition: [Choose one]

**Uncertain:** It can be difficult to predict what will happen. I hope they will be able to [eat normally again, regain weight, tolerate TPN or tube feeding] for a long time, and we will work toward that goal. It’s also possible that they could get sick quickly, and I think it’s important that we prepare for that.

**Function:** It can be difficult to predict what will happen. I hope they will be able to nourish themselves for a long time, and we will work toward that goal. It’s also possible that it may get harder to get the nutrition they need [if applicable to tolerate medical treatment] because of their illness, and I think it’s important that we prepare for that.

Pause: Allow silence. Validate and explore emotions.

If their health gets worse, what do you think are _____’s most important goals?

What do you think are _____’s biggest worries about the future with their [eating/drinking/TF/TPN/nutrition]?

What nutrition-related activities bring joy and meaning to their life that you can’t imagine them living without?

If _____ was unable to eat by mouth, would they want to be fed through a nasal tube or an IV line if doctors felt it was appropriate?

How much do the people closest to _____ know about _____’s priorities and wishes for their eating and nutrition?

Having talked about all of this, what are _____’s hopes for their nutrition?

I’ve heard you say ______. Keeping that in mind, and what we know about _____’s health and current nutrition, I recommend that we ______. I will also pass this information to the rest of your healthcare team. This will help us make sure that _____’s nutrition plan reflects what’s important to them. How does this plan seem to you?

We will do everything we can to help you and _____ through this.

Handoff to Key Clinicians

I talked with the patient’s surrogate about ______. I learned ______.

I think they would benefit from talking with you about ______.