

When to Refer to Social Work

SAFETY/RISK	DISTRESS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Codes/Critical Events • Child Protection (suspected physical, sexual, or emotional maltreatment) • Child Welfare Alerts • Vulnerability due to Life Stage and Social Situation (Child & Youth) • Vulnerability due to Cognitive/Physical Deficits; and Abuse, Neglect/Self-Neglect (Adult Guardianship) • High Risk Behaviours • Harm to Self &/or Others • Depression and Suicidal Ideation/Attempts • Unsafe Environments • Violence in Relationships • Human Trafficking • Substance Misuse &/or Abuse • Concurrent Disorders – Mental Health and Substance Use with Safety/Risk Challenges • Homelessness – associated with Safety/Risk, Harm to Self /Others • Complex Legal/Ethical issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis Intervention/Traumatic Event (includes assault, significant injury/change in health status or unexpected medical outcomes) • Death & Bereavement (Adult/Child including miscarriages, still birth, etc) • Treatment Decisions/Quality of Life discussions, including End of Life • Advance Care Planning • Adjustments & Transitions (i.e. pre & post diagnosis, treatment trauma, critical illness, life altering prognosis, significant change in function or lifestyle, etc.) • Anxiety or other Mental Health Concerns • Isolation / Limited Support Network • Family Systems Challenges (i.e. roles, relationships, conflicts, parenting concerns, separation/divorce, grief & loss, etc) • Caregiver Responsibility Challenges (Adult &/or Child)
SYSTEMS NAVIGATION	PRACTICAL CONCERNS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complex Situations Requiring Enhanced Communication/Planning (i.e. collaborative care planning conferences) • Barriers to Transition Planning or Accessing Necessary Resources • Engaging Individuals/Families for Issues of Participation/Compliance with Treatment • Coordinating Legal Processes (Adoption, Surrogacy, Temporary Substitute Decision Maker, etc) • Managing Chronic Conditions (ABI, ALS, COPD, CVA, Diabetes, MH, MS, Renal, etc) • Individuals/Families with Frequent Hospital Contacts &/or Multiple Service Providers • Clinical Pathways • Advocacy & Promoting Self-Advocacy • Barriers Associated with Social Determinants of Health (i.e. social status, culture, language, education, poverty, etc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition Planning/Continuity of Care • Eligibility for Various Services/Benefits (ICBC, Veterans Affairs, Work Safe BC etc) • Housing Resources (tenancy issues, shelters, boarding homes, mental health facility, etc) • Financial Concerns (accessing income supports, medical coverage or difficulty managing financial matters) • Transportation • Legal Assistance Education • Immigration (sponsorship breakdown, illegal immigrant, visitor, etc) • Cultural Connections (interpretation arrangements, links to cultural/spiritual community) • Linking/Referrals &/or Community Resource Education (i.e. Public Health, food/meal programs, private pay resources, Detox or treatment for substance use, etc)