

Appendix 3 (as supplied by the authors): The relative desirability of supportive care alone versus chemotherapy when quality of life with chemotherapy was the threshold attribute
(Used in Parents' & Healthcare Professionals' Task Sets)

A. During the Interview: Find the minimal "required" quality of life (QOL) that must be offered by palliative cytotoxic chemotherapy in order for it to be considered worthwhile, relative to supportive care alone:

a) *If palliative chemotherapy is initially favored, the minimal "required" QOL with palliative chemotherapy is identified by gradually decreasing the QOL associated with palliative chemotherapy, 1 unit at a time, until the respondent indicates that he/she would switch to accepting supportive care alone. Note that the respondent who strongly favors palliative chemotherapy will not give it up, even if the QOL associated with palliative chemotherapy is very low.*

b) *If supportive care is initially favored, the minimal "required" QOL with palliative chemotherapy is identified by gradually increasing the QOL associated with palliative chemotherapy, 1 unit at a time, until the respondent indicates that he/she would switch to accepting palliative chemotherapy. Note that the respondent with a strong aversion to palliative chemotherapy will not accept it, even if the QOL associated with palliative chemotherapy is very high.*

B. After the Interview: Treat these observed values for minimal "required" QOL as indirectly-derived desirability scores for supportive care alone:

The respondent who strongly favors palliative chemotherapy will not give it up even if the QOL associated with palliative chemotherapy is reduced to a low level. *Hence, under these measurement conditions, this respondent's indirectly-derived desirability score for supportive care alone is low.*

The respondent with an aversion to palliative chemotherapy will not accept it even if the QOL associated with palliative chemotherapy is raised to a high level. *Hence, under these measurement conditions, this respondent's indirectly-derived desirability score for supportive care alone is high.*