



# CENTRAL OHIO music therapy<sub>LLC</sub>

## INTERNSHIP APPLICATION: PROTOCOL WRITING

### Medical/Geriatric Protocol

#### Case:

Jim is a 70-year old male patient hospitalized 3 days ago from a fall and changes in mental status. His nurse gives you a written referral informing you that Jim has been diagnosed with cancer and that the cancer has spread to his brain. The metastases to his brain have resulted in significant limitation to his daily living skills and his ability to interact with his family. He is no longer alert and oriented. Jim has 2 adult children who stay by his bedside frequently. Jim likes country and folk music but never went to church. The nurse has told the family she has referred music therapy.

When you see arrive at Jim's room later that day to provide him with a music therapy session the nurse informs your Jim's condition has further deteriorated. He has become violent and that several doses of strong medications have not helped much. She asks you to try and keep him and the family calm until they can find a medication combination that works for him. She also tells you the daughter has collapsed once from the emotional strain of seeing her father behave so bizarrely.

You walk in a find Jim sitting up in bed with his back far from the upper part of the bed, sitting at almost a perfect right angle. His arms and legs are shaking. His eyes are open wide. His son and daughter are standing on either side of the bed with tears in their eyes, each with a hold of one of his hands, which he has clenched tightly to each of their hands.

**Your task:** Describe how you will initially interact with the family and patient. How will you approach this session? Describe in great detail the musical and intervention techniques you will employ to address the needs of this patient and family. What observations will you make and how will you measure your success with this patient? If the patient responds well to the music intervention, what recommendations might you make?