



**Te Ara Whakapiri –**  
Care in the last days of life



# Complicated bereavement risk assessment tool

(Complete a separate form for each person at risk)

<b>Name of the deceased person</b>		<b>NHI</b>	<b>Date of death</b>
<b>Name of the key family/whanau contact</b>		<b>Relationship to the deceased</b>	
<b>Address</b>			
<b>Phone numbers</b>	Home	Work	Mobile

<p><b>Client characteristics (Bereaved client)</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Under 18</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Was a twin</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Young spouse</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Elderly spouse</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Isolated</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Lacks meaningful social support</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Dissatisfied with help available during illness</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New to financial independence</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New to decision making</p> <p><b>Deceased illness</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inherited disorder</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stigmatised disease in the family / community</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Lengthy and burdensome</p> <p><b>Death</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sudden or unexpected</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Traumatic circumstances associated with death</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Significant cultural / social burdens as a result of death</p>	<p><b>History of loss</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative multiple losses</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Previous mental health illness</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Current mental health illness</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other significant health issues</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Migrant/refugee</p> <p><b>Relationship with deceased</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Profound lifelong partner</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Highly dependant</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Antagonistic</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ambivalent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Deeply connected</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Culturally defined</p>
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<b>Low risk (score 0 - 2)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to deal with grief with support of family and friends.</li> <li>• Give a copy of bereavement brochure.</li> </ul>
<b>Moderate risk (score 3 - 5)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In need of some additional support, e.g. peer support / trained volunteer led group.</li> <li>• Give a copy of bereavement brochure and suggest contacting one of the local support agencies.</li> </ul>
<b>High risk (score 5+)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At multiple risks of complicated grief. May need referral to specialist health care professional, e.g. GP, counsellor or hospice bereavement service.</li> <li>• Give a copy of bereavement brochure.</li> </ul>

Acknowledgement to Ministry of Health for sharing resource



**Complicated bereavement risk assessment tool - continued**

Local support agencies	Information	Contact details
Specialist bereavement support	Information	Contact details