

# Shirley

BY: CURTIS STINE MD

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Doctor, I've got this cough.  
Can you prescribe something for me?  
Help me feel better.

Doctor, that medicine you gave me didn't work.  
What do you hear in my chest? Pneumonia?  
Do you really think I need a chest X-ray?  
Just give me an antibiotic.

Doctor, your nurse said you wanted to see me.  
My X-ray was abnormal? What do you think I have?  
Tell me I don't have cancer.

Doctor, I can't believe it.  
How could I have cancer? Are you sure?  
Where did it come from? How did I get it?  
Tell me I'll be OK.

Doctor, I'm so confused.  
How am I going to tell my husband? My kids? Our friends?  
The people at work?  
You'll talk to him, please.

Doctor, I want to see a surgeon.  
You don't think surgery would help? What's an oncologist?  
Get me an appointment as soon as possible.

Doctor, the oncologist wants to treat me with drugs.  
What do you think? What would you do?  
I'm going to beat this thing.

Doctor, my hair is falling out.  
That means the drugs are working, right?  
Tell me I'm going to get better.

Doctor, I'm losing weight.  
Is that a bad sign? I'm not giving up.  
Tell me what other treatments are available.

I don't want to go to the hospital.  
Who are these hospice people?  
Can't you just see me at home?



I've got so many things to tell my husband;  
so many things to tell the kids.  
Help me, won't you?

Doctor, I'm so lonely.  
Where are my friends? Where is my family?  
Just stay a bit longer.  
You're one of the few who haven't deserted me.

Doctor, I'm having problems breathing.  
Please, don't let me smother.

Doctor, I'm in a lot of pain.  
Please, make this pain go away.

Doctor, I'm so tired.  
Please, I just want to sleep.

Good friend, I'm dying. We both know it.  
Please, just hold my hand. Please?