

## Scripted Role Play #3 - Hmong

### Sudden Loss of Family Member

Background: The bereavement coordinator is talking to the wife of a patient who passed away several months ago.

**Provider:** Good afternoon. I'm Rachel Rogers, the bereavement coordinator at Mercy Hospital. I wanted to come and talk to you about your husband, Nu. First and foremost, I really want to express my deepest sympathies to you and your family for Nu's death. I understand it was unexpected and quite sudden.

**Wife:** Yog li.

**Provider:** I often meet with families who suffer the loss of a loved one to discuss some of the feelings associated with loss and really just to check in and see how you're doing. Since the length of the bereavement process depends entirely on each individual, some family members are more willing to speak about their feelings sooner than others. Please know that it may take months or even years until you are willing or able to speak openly about Nu and his passing. I have a few questions I would like to ask you, but before I begin, is there anything you would like to talk about?

**Wife:** Tsis muaj.

**Provider:** OK. Can you tell me more about Nu's death?

**Wife:** Zoo li, thaum nws tuaj rau ntawm tsev kho mob nws yeej mob mob heev lawm. Nws yeej mob heev kawg li. Kuv tsis tau pom nws zoo li nod dua li. Nws yeej nroo mob nws lub plab ntawm nod heev li (plhws lub plab). Ces, thaum peb tuaj txog ntawm chav mob hnyav (emergency) thiab lawv thiaj ua ntau yam kev ntsuam xyuas (test) los mus nrhiav seb nws muaj mob dabtsi. Lawv muab cov tshuaj loog (narcotic) los mus pab nws qhov mob kom ntaug vim nws mob heev. Cov kws khob mob txiav txiv tso nws pw los mus ntsuam xyuas nws thiab kuv xav nrog nws nyob tiamsis lawv tsi kam vim lawv hais tias cov neeg qhua tuaj xyuas yeej txwv tsis pub nyob chav ntawd. Ces kuv tus tub hlob thiaj tuaj xyuas kuv ntawm tsev kho mob thiab tuaj tos kuv mus pw ntawm nws tsev. Kuv pws yeej tsis tsaug zog vim kuv txhawj Nus heev. Kuv yeej nyob ib hmo kaj twg uas hnub

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tuaj es kuv hais kuv tus tub thauj kuv rov qab rau tom tsev kho mob mus nrog nws nyob. Thaum wb mus txog ntawm nws chav txhua tus nawj(nurse) hais qhia rau kuv tias nws qhov mob ntaug lawm thiab nws kee zog lawm. Tom qab ntawd, lawv thiab tso wb mus saib nws thiab wb nyob ntawd tos lawv cov lus teb ntawm kev ntsuam xyuas uas lawv ntsuam xyuas no seb yog li cas. Tib pliag ntshis xwb lub tswb cia quaj ces coob tus kws kho mob (doctors) thiab nawj(nurses) thiab los. Muaj ib tus nawj(nurse) thiab los ntawm wb thiab koj wb tawm ntawm chav mus es lawv thiab ua tau haujlwm rau nws txiv. Lawv yeej piav qhia dabtsi rau kuv tiamsis kuv yeej tsis paub xyov lawv hais abtsi vim kuv ntshai heev ntxog qhov kev tshwv simno. Koj yeej pom me ntsis seb ua licas hauv chav thiab tag nrho cov neeg ua pab ib ncig nws. Lawv muab cov niag ntawd tso rau nws, cov niag uas pab nias hauv siab tsa cawm tus neeg mob. Qhov tseeb mas kuv twb tsis paub xyov sijhawm twb dhau lawm hov ntev. Kuv nyob ntawd tos nrog kuv tus tub thiab wb yeej tsis paub xyov ua licas lawm li vim sai heev. Tom qab ntawd ces lawv qhia rau kuv tias Nus tuag lawm...tias lawv pab cawm tsis tau nws.

**Provider:** Again, Martha, I'm terribly sorry for your loss. While I didn't know Nu, I'm certain that you loved him very much...that your whole family loved him very much. I'd like to ask how you are. Sometimes family members tell me that they are unable to eat or sleep after the loss of a loved one. What about you, Martha. Are you eating and sleeping OK?

**Wife:** Aws noj taus pw taus thiab

**Provider:** That's good. I know it can be difficult. Is there anything that is bothering you in particular?

**Wife:** Zoo li, ib lo lus uas kuv muaj tsuas yog tias kuv nco tsis tau ub tau no. Kuv hnov qab txhua yam thiab ces kuv cov menyuam chim rau kuv vim lawv tias kuv tsis mloog zoo thiab lawv nkees nkees hais ob peb lwm. Kuv kuj tsis paub xyov ua licas rau kuv tiamsis kuv kuj ua zoo qhia rau lawv paub tias tsis yog kuv txhob txwm. Peb yeej sib cav li no txhua zaug thiab ua rau kuv xav tsis tag li.

**Provider:** Well, Martha, forgetfulness is common after a traumatizing event. It's our body's way of healing itself because it's trying to erase the pain and suffering.

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**Wife:** Nws puas yuav ua li no tas mus li? Kuv nco tsis tau xyov kuv muab tus yawmsij tso qhov twg li los yog tias kuv muaj khawb ncauj ntshua nyob rau cav ntshua khaub ncaws. Kuv siab ntshov nyho ua tsis tsheej ib yam abtsi li thiab kuv lub siab tsi nyob ntawd li.

**Provider:** While what you describe is common, it depends on the individual just how long it lasts. You will not be like this forever, Martha. You need time to heal. Is there anything else you would like to talk about today?

**Wife:** Tsis muaj.

**Provider:** I'm aware of some programs that offer support groups. Would you be interested in something like that?

**Wife:** Kuv tsis paub.

**Provider:** Well, if I understand correctly, you do not have a strong support system in the area, and much of your family is still in Laos. Sometimes it helps to talk about your feelings, and that is what a support group can offer you – a place to talk. Here is a pamphlet in Hmong about some of the programs in your area. If you decide you're interested, you can call and make arrangements to attend. You wouldn't have to go to every meeting; only when you feel like talking would help. I believe they might have some support groups in Hmong, too.

**Wife:** Ua li los tau...

**Provider:** Unless there's anything else, Martha, that's all I wanted to discuss with you today. Like I said, I just wanted to check in and see how you were doing. I appreciate you coming in to see me. You can call me anytime you'd like to talk. Here is my number. Just leave me a message with your name and "Hmong", and I will return your call with an interpreter.

**Wife:** Ua li ntawd, Ua tsaug..

**Provider:** Thank you, Martha.