**Supplementary Table 1: Guideline for SPC counselling**

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| General aspects:Personal consultation interview of approximately 60 minutes (45 – 90 min)Primary consultation by a specialist for palliative carePalliative care nurses, social workers and psychologists should be included as needed.Content that has to be addressed in every consultation:* Typical symptoms of advanced cancer and their treatment options
* Pain
* Weakness, tiredness, fatigue
* Dry mounth
* Nausea and emesis
* Loss of appetite
* Dyspnoe
* Changes and challenges when nearing end of life
* Different structures of palliative and hospice care
* Specific local structures of palliative and hospice care, including hand out of contact addresses
* Specific structures of palliative care at the comprehensive cancer center, hand out of important contact addresses
* Advance directives (patient decree and power of attorney), including offer of templates

Explicitly ask if there are any further questions, problems or needs concerning the patients himself/herself or his/her family caregivers.Potential consequences:* Recommendation for medical or non-medical treatment of symptom burden
* Preparing a patient decree and/or power of attorney together
* Transferring the patient to a specialist outpatient palliative care or hospice service
* Recommendation of further forms of specialized counselling
* Admitting the patient to the palliative care ward
* Planning further palliative care counselling
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