

## Sione – case study

### Background

Sione is a 71 year old Samoan man with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease who has been living in New Zealand for 8 years due to his health. He and his wife have 6 children, 5 of whom live in Samoa with his wife. He lives with his daughter and her respective family here in NZ. His family in Samoa hold very strong traditional Samoan views on life and his family with whom he lives here in NZ are quite Western in their perspectives and lifestyle.

### Current situation

One of the advance care planning facilitators was scheduled to give a talk on advance care planning to a Better Breathers group. Usually about 12-15 people attend the group, and there is a mix of genders and cultures, often predominately Pacifica. Pacifica clients frequently attend with a spokesperson.

The Physiotherapist was approached by Sione's spokesperson – his grand-daughter – prior to the session. She informed her that her grandfather did not want CPR if he was to 'go down'. At this point Sione does not have a written advance care plan or advance directive.

The Physiotherapist asks the advance care planning facilitator, "So what happens if Sione arrests in the hall today?"

### Issues for discussion

1. Does Sione's expressed wish for no CPR constitute a valid advance directive? Why/why not?
2. What legal or other responsibilities does the Physiotherapist have, once she has been given this information?
3. Given the collective decision-making of traditional Samoan culture, would there be a need to involve his family back in Samoa before making a decision about CPR? How does that impact on this situation?
4. If Sione did arrest in the hall today, what would your response be?