STEP 1: Identify Health Priorities

- Identify What Matters Most to the patient (Values). Ask the patient what gives their life meaning, purpose, joy, or satisfaction

- Help patient identify their Health Goal - activities that reflect putting their values into action and are Specific, Realistic and Actionable enough to inform decision making

- Ask patient what health problem (symptom, condition, health care task or medication) is most bothersome and keeps them from achieving their Health Goal

- Put it together (Top Priority, One Thing): “I want to focus on (most bothersome problem) so I can (Health Goal) more easily or often”

STEP 2: Align Care with Health Priorities

- Review the patient’s health priorities summary

- Begin encounters with “What one thing do you most want to focus on that you think is keeping you from achieving your health goal (from Priorities Template)?”

- Follow the care alignment strategies and troubleshooting for patient priorities-aligned decision making

- Document and communicate patient priorities
STRATEGIES: Use Patient’s Priorities to...

- Consider which conditions, treatments and life circumstances/social determinants are affecting the most bothersome health problem or goals
- Consider what current and potential interventions are consistent with health outcome goals and care preferences based on above step
- Focus communication and decision-making with the patient and colleagues
- Guide serial trials to start, stop or continue interventions

Self-Guided Priority Identification
MyHealthPriorities.org

Implementation Resources
PatientPrioritiesCare.org/implementation-toolkit/

VA-Specific Toolkit
VAPPCTools.PatientPrioritiesCare.org/

Care Alignment Strategies
DecisionGuide.PatientPrioritiesCare.org/