Questions to ask yourself to help you determine if a patient is transitioning to an EOL trajectory which should trigger the use of this algorithm
1) Surprise Question- In the next 6 months, would I be surprised to hear this individual had died?
2) Has the patient made a choice for comfort measures or is the patient in need of supportive palliative care? (e.g. non a transplant candidate, VAD at end of life)
3) Does the patient have at least 2 of the following clinical indicators? a) NYHA III or IV, b) Thought to be in last year of life, c) Repeated HF hospitalizations
4) Is the patient having difficult physical or psychological symptoms despite optimal therapy?

(Adapted from the Gold Standards Framework, 2008)