**MD Script #2 – BAD Example**

*STUDY PARTICIPANT* as PROVIDER: Hello, (*insert name*), I am Dr. (*insert* name) and I am here to see you about your cancer pain.

*RESEARCH TEAM MEMBER* as PATIENT: Hello, doctor. I have been in a lot of pain; I am so glad that you are here.

PROVIDER: Well, (*insert* name), I can make sure that you get the pain medicine that you need. Do you want to talk about that right now?

PATIENT: Well, the dilaudid pill that I am taking, I believe 4mg pills, is not working for me. I don’t know what this means…..

PROVIDER: We can either escalate to a higher dose of the dilaudid pill or we can rotate to a different opioid altogether. Or we have a new type of pain medicine named buprenorphine. It comes in a transdermal patch form. It acts on the kappa and delta receptors, in addition to the mu receptors. So it works by a different mechanism and should work better for you.

PATIENT: I don’t understand what you just said. I just want my pain to get better. I also have not been able to sleep and sometimes I cry myself to sleep. Because, I don’t know ……what this pain means….(patient sits silently; about 2 seconds)

PROVIDER: (keeps talking) Mr. Brown, the pain medicine should also help you sleep. In this case, maybe we will use the stronger pain medicine – to make sure that you fall asleep.

PATIENT: Sleeping would be good. I worry a lot that my worsening pain means my cancer might be spreading. And this is a big reason that I cannot sleep; I think about it all the time, day and night.

PROVIDER: I don’t usually prescribe opioids with benzodiazepines together because of the increased risk of overdose death. The synergistic effects compound the harm. But in your case, it may be appropriate to take the risk.

PATIENT: I really want to talk to you about…..

PROVIDER: (interrupting patient) Also, you certainly can benefit from counseling. We have a psychologist here at the cancer center who will be more than happy to speak with you. The receptionist outside can make an appointment for you.

PATIENT: I have a lot of questions about my cancer and plans that I need to make. How soon is that appointment with the psychologist going to be? Maybe I can ask you those questions….

PROVIDER: I think your cancer doctor should really be the one to answer them. They are more qualified; I can talk to them about getting an earlier appointment.