



E-FIGURE 125-1 In patients with cancer, function typically remains high until the very late stages of disease (**A**); this is the model of illness for which hospice care was developed. Patients with chronic organ system failure such as heart failure or obstructive lung disease are often ill for prolonged periods, with frequent exacerbations followed by recovery of function (**B**). Patients with dementia also follow a chronic course, with dwindling reserve over time (**C**). Sudden neurological injury (stroke, hypoxic ischemic injury, traumatic brain injury) often results in a sudden decrement of well-being and function associated with a high mortality (**D**). Recovery is prolonged and slow with frequent setback and accumulating disability over time. (Modified from Murray SA, Kendall M, Boyd K, et al: Illness trajectories and palliative care, *BMJ* 330:1007–1011, 2005.)