



Universität
Basel

Research Project

Conditions and quality of community-based end-of-life care - the role of GPs

Third-party funded project

Project title Conditions and quality of community-based end-of-life care - the role of GPs

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Ethik / Bio- und Medizinethik (Elger)

Department

Project Website <http://ihamb.unibas.ch/index.cfm?AA563634D9D9424C406E60268ECF90AE>

Project start 01.05.2012

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Status Completed

Caring for persons at the end of life (palliative care) is a great challenge for everyone involved. This project examines palliative care from the perspective of general practitioners (primary care physicians) and family members of patients who have died. The goal is improvement of the quality of care at the end of life.

Background

The majority of people die after a long illness not of cancer but of heart, lung or kidney diseases and chronic illnesses of the nervous system. General practitioners often play a central role in the care of persons at the end of life, as they have known the patients and their families for years. The physicians are expected to possess high competency in the area of palliative care. This goes far beyond treating symptoms of illness at the end of life. The tasks of palliative care include communicating appropriately in these situations, ensuring the patients and their families the necessary emotional support, aiding in decision-making and coordinating the different health services involved.

Aim

General practitioners and family members of deceased patients in all three language regions of Switzerland will be surveyed through interviews and questionnaires. The aim is to gather information mainly on the quality of care of persons at the end of life. Special attention will be paid to the education and continuing education of future general practitioners and the quality of care structures up to now. The results of the study will contribute towards the drafting of specific suggestions for improving palliative care of persons at the end of life.

Significance

This study aims to identify gaps in care and especially general practitioners' care of persons at the end of life and to draft suggestions for improvement. The study will contribute towards improving palliative care in Switzerland.

Financed by

Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)

Add publication

Published results

1535610, Otte, Ina; Jung, Corinna; Elger, Bernice, 'Conceptualizing Dying? Structures of End-of-Life Care in Switzerland', Publication: ConferencePaper (Artikel, die in Tagungsbänden erschienen sind)

4488761, Giezendanner, Stephanie; Bally, Klaus; Haller, Dagmar M.; Jung, Corinna; Otte, Ina C.; Banderet, Hans-Ruedi; Elger, Bernice S.; Zemp, Elisabeth; Gudat, Heike, Reasons for and Frequency of End-of-Life Hospital Admissions: General Practitioners' Perspective on Reducing End-of-Life Hospital Referrals, Journal of Palliative Medicine, Publication: JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)

Add documents

Specify cooperation partners