



Universität
Basel

Research Project

Facilitating decisions making in end-of-life: A study in Swiss and Romanian pediatric oncology settings

Third-party funded project

Project title Facilitating decisions making in end-of-life: A study in Swiss and Romanian pediatric oncology settings

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Organisation / Research unit

Ethik / Bio- und Medizinethik (Elger)

Department

Project start 01.09.2015

Probable end 31.08.2017

Status Completed

The research team at the IBMB, Unibas has already examined the *attitudes and motives concerning inclusion of children in end-of-life* decision making process in Switzerland and Romania. This first part of the project investigated the possibility of including children living with cancer in his/her end-of-life decision making as well as in his overall treatment decision making process. For that, qualitative interviews with physicians, parents, and children living with cancer were conducted between 2012 and 2015. This study is a continuation of this topic and it aims to propose acceptable and feasible ways to facilitate decision making in end-of-life care for all stakeholders: children dying of cancer and their families as well as healthcare personnel. Thus, the objectives of this study are to: (1) explore palliative care definitions and culture in Swiss and Romanian Pediatric Oncology Centers to understand how decisions to stop curative treatment are made, (2) identify existing national and international end-of-life decision making guidelines, explore whether palliative care protocols are available for pediatric oncology settings in other countries, and assess their appropriateness and possibility for implementation, (3) confront stakeholders with existing decision-making about palliative care and about attitudes towards end-of-life situations and discuss further needs and possible solutions, (4) work on developing a comprehensive guideline to help healthcare providers in tackling this sensitive issue of decision making at the end-of-life of children suffering from cancer.

Keywords end of life, pediatric oncology, decision making, palliative care

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Published results

3661781, Badarau, Domnita O.; De Clercq, Eva; Wangmo, Tenzin; Dragomir, Monica; Miron, Ingrid; Kühne, Thomas; Elger, Bernice S., Cancer care in Romania: challenges and pitfalls of children's and adolescents' multifaceted involvement, 0306-6800 ; 1473-4257, Journal of medical ethics, Publication: JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)

3673752, Badarau, B. O.; Ruhe, K. M.; Kühne, T.; de Clerq, E.; Anca, C.; Elger, B. S.; Wangmo, T., From choiceless to hard choices: views of parents and oncologists on decision-making in pediatric oncology in two European countries, 2329-4515 ; 2329-4523, AJOB Empirical Bioethics, Publication: JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)

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