

Research Project

Challenges of Palliative Care in South Africa and Switzerland : A Comparative Study

Project funded by own resources

Project title Challenges of Palliative Care in South Africa and Switzerland : A Comparative Study

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Organisation / Research unit

Ethik / Bio- und Medizinethik (Elger)

Project start 01.06.2017

Probable end 31.05.2020

Status Completed

The project aims at (1) describing and comparing the Swiss and South African Palliative Care (PC) existing structures and services in public hospital settings ; (2) identifying the specific areas where the Swiss model could be implemented in SA hospitals; (4) identifying the specific areas where the South African model could be of help in Swiss hospitals.

The common aim of the four Swiss and South African applicants – and their collaborators – is to describe, analyze and compare the present development of PC in public university hospital settings in a rigorous, scientific and understandable manner. All applicants agree that the purpose of their project has a great practical and socially relevance. The Swiss partners will focus their attention upon the ethical (Isabelle Wienand) and the social (Elisio Macamo) aspects of PC. The South African partners will concentrate on the philosophical-psychological (Abraham Olivier) and public political (Malcolm de Roubaix) dimensions of PC.

Our SSAJR project has a clear innovative strength in today's research in PC as well as a social impact, inasmuch as it (1) studies how the quality of life and autonomy of end-of-life patients can be promoted and respected; (2) contributes to international PC research by comparing Swiss and South African existing settings (3) explores the potentialities of PC as a humane and patient-oriented medicine that could also be a financial relief.

The research will be conducted on a (1) conceptual/theoretical level and (2) empirical level. (1) will explore the different views on PC and discuss the major ethical, medical and cultural challenges. (2) The empirical level will find out the opinions of different key informants/stakeholders on PC (quantitative and qualitative analyses).

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Keywords Medical ethics, philosophy of medicine, Public Health, Patients' Autonomy, Swiss Palliative Care Guidelines, South African Palliative Care guidelines

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Other funds

Add publication

Add documents

Specify cooperation partners