Article:
Association Between Immigrant Status and End-of-Life Care in Ontario, Canada.

Yarnell CJ, et al.

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Review:

Strengths:
- Quantifies one aspect of cultural differences
- Palliative care population, large n, Canadian province
- Corroborates qualitative research and anecdotal experiences

Weaknesses:
- Immigrant and resident cohorts differ significantly (Age, Socioeconomic status, geography) --> confounding
- Not adjusted for disease severity
- Big picture data

Relevance to Palliative Care:
We provide palliative care to many cultures daily. There is a subjective understanding that different cultures have different patterns of behaviour, perspectives, and decisions when it comes to end-of-life decision making. This research helps quantify that. It also provides a foundation from which we can explore ways to improve palliative care outcomes for newly immigrated people; for example, by increasing availability of translation services and “cultural brokers”.