

Journal Watch – Advanced Care Planning – February 2018

Article:

End-of-Life Treatment Preferences: A Key to Reducing Ethic/ Racial Disparities in Advance Care Planning.

Garrido MM, Harrington ST, Prigerson HG.

Cancer. 2014 Dec 15;120(24):3981-6.

Article link: DOI:10.1002/cncr.28970

Review:

Strengths:

- Adequate sample size for white population assessed
- Data collection prospectively
- Comprehensive information on values and preferences and relation to ACP→
- Identified specific, modifiable targets for intervention

Weaknesses:

- Only advanced cancer, English or Spanish speaking pt
- Minority populations had limited sample sizes→ Multivariate analysis of DNR rates precluded
- Correlational conclusions
- Unable to account for other factors associated with ACP such as income and health literacy

Relevance to Palliative Care: Supports development of interventions that educate patients specifically about the benefits and risks of specific life-prolonging treatments so patients are equipped to have documented ACP and ultimately allow for the consideration of palliative care.