

W90

Do you talk with your patients about their wishes and expectations around the end of their life?

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Background and Aim: A majority of the Dutch population thinks about their end-of-life wishes but only 30-40 % talks about this important subject with relatives.

A recent survey in the Dutch population showed that for the elderly patients the GP can play an important role to discuss this subject. Results from another study showed that only 4% of the patients had actually discussed their end-of-life wishes with a doctor.

We consider it to be very important for a patient that he can share his wishes and expectations about the end of life with family and his GP, even though such a conversation can be difficult.

in a dialogue between patient and doctor about end-of-life wishes and expectations several important topics can be discussed:

- Worries and fears of the patient
- To continue or to stop treatment
- Possibilities of palliative care
- Preferred place of dying

The result of the dialogue is to realize optimal end- of- life care that meets the wishes of the patient.

The aim of this workshop is to discuss how GP's can fulfil this important but difficult task. Ideas and solutions from different countries will be shared.

Organisation of the workshop:

- Introduction video and personal experiences
- Interactive questionnaire
- Presentation of the results of Dutch questionnaires about end-of-life wishes of patients and doctors
- Working in small groups on case histories
- Discussion

Results: The participating GPs are aware of the possibilities and importance of their role and feel more prepared to start the dialogue with their patients about their end-of-life wishes.