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End-of-Life Planning Activities: An Integrated Process

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Abstract

This study examined end-of-life planning and whether common characteristics predicted completion of these decisions. Participants in the Nebraska End-of-Life Survey were asked whether they had heard about or completed five plans: a health care power of attorney agreement, a living will, a last will and testament, funeral or burial preplanning, and organ and tissue donation. Logistic regression was used to identify predictors of these outcomes. Predictors of completing end-of-life plans, including funeral and burial preplanning, were age, gender, education, income, and health status. Higher rates of completion were found for those with higher education, higher income, and higher rates of health insurance. The study also found that the role of the health care provider in end-of-life planning, including the role of the physician, was associated with completion of end-of-life plans.



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Notes

HCPA = Health care power of attorney; OR = odds ratio.

*p < .05. **p < .01. ***p < .005.

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