Poster session

Perspectives of good death among Filipino cancer patients, family members and healthcare providers in Davao city

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Background: Death is a multi-dimensional process. Even though there are acceptable global attributes of good death, what constitutes it varies based on the factors such as socio-cultural norms, time, space and even individual characteristics. A local study by Balein provided us as initial data on the factors rated as extremely important to be associated with good death in the Philippine setting. However, using a survey as a methodology, there are elements that could still be explored. Aim: This study aims to describe the perspectives of good death among Filipino cancer patients, caregivers, family members and healthcare providers in Davao City as well as their similarities and differences.

Design, Setting and Participants: Qualitative methodology using key informant interviews among cancer patients, caregivers, family members and healthcare providers in Southern Philippines Medical Center.

Methods: Key informant interviews were analyzed using thematic content analysis.

Results and conclusions: Themes identified on concept of good death among the patients are acceptance, sense of fulfillment, physical comfort and able to resolve conflicts; family members - acceptance, physical comfort, family support, preparedness and sense of peace; healthcare providers - physical comfort, acceptance, sense of fulfillment, family support, preparedness and able to resolve conflicts. Furthermore, good death should be pain free, at home with the family at bedside. This only shows that the concept of death in our setting is unique thereby our approach and intervention for the dying should be tailored using an individualized care approach.