

Improving End-of-life Care: Honest and Compassionate Conversations

Improving end-of-life care requires culture change from merely eliciting resuscitation preferences to thoughtful discussions regarding patient values, beliefs, goals for care coupled with shared decision-making to define preferences for care. This seminar is specially designed for geriatricians who are dedicated in advanced care planning discussions. It will introduce the 8-Step MOLST Protocol (Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) developed in 2005. This protocol aims to initiate a standardized approach to thoughtful EOL discussions for seriously ill patients with advanced illness. With the protocol defined, an end-of-life care plan is needed and the clinical process applies in all settings (hospital, nursing home, office and patient's home). The same approach aligns with documentation in medical records.