

A Critical Review of Advance Care Planning Development in Singapore: Reaping More Benefits and Addressing Key Challenges Ahead

Singapore is one of the countries with a National Steering Committee to drive a concerted effort in promoting advance care planning (ACP), since the inception of ACP in 2011. Across a span of 8 years, the development of ACP has seen an increase in ownership among health and social care stakeholders to raised awareness of ACP among the public, guide conversations by trained facilitators and enable documentation through a national ACP IT system. In context, there are other care planning tools being promoted in the landscape – Advance Medical Directive, Lasting Power of Attorney, the compulsory savings and medical insurance under the Central Provident Fund, to name a few. Therein lies the necessity to define the utility of ACP in care planning, to retrace the purpose of the pioneers and to consider how the whole movement can stay relevant. This talk aims to share lessons from Singapore ACP development which is evolving from planning for advance care to planning for care in advance.