Talking About Dying
Dan Johnson, MD, FAAHPM
Director, Life Quality Institute, Regional Chief, Palliative Care Department, Kaiser Permanente

Session Discussion Questions:

1. “We” don’t talk about dying. Why?

2. Do end-of-life discussions influence care decisions? How about advance directives?

3. How should we start “end-of-life” conversations? What words are helpful? Words to avoid?

4. What is palliative care? Is it different than hospice? How do we introduce palliative care?

Recommended Articles:


Pantilat SZ. Communicating With Seriously Ill Patients: Better Words to Say. JAMA. 2009;301(12):1279-1281.


