

### O3\_A2\_A\_Scientific Evidence

#### SPIRITUAL ASSESSMENT

<b>Q1</b>	Are patients in palliative care who have an active religious life better coping with the illness compared with those patients who have no faith?
<b>Patients</b>	Patients elderly and/or frail and/or end of life indications in a palliative facility Frail, aged, end of life adults Children in a palliative facility
<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Active religious life</b>
<b>Comparator</b>	<b>No active religious life</b>
<b>Outcome</b>	Core outcome measures: Quality of life
<b>Methodology</b>	Review of the published data Systematic reviews
<b>Extra</b>	ethnic, cultural, and religious

Studies: Systematic review, qualitative studies.

#### Indications

Positive religious coping is associated with receipt of more intensive life-prolonging medical care at the EOL. These results suggest that clinicians should be attentive to religious methods of coping as they discuss prognosis and treatment options with terminally ill patients.

#### Conclusion:

Assessment of religious needs and support should be provided as integral part of palliative care services.

#### References

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5. Catherine E. Mosher, Coping with Physical and Psychological Symptoms: A Qualitative Study of Advanced Lung Cancer Patients and their Family Caregivers, Support Care Cancer. 2015 July ; 23(7): 2053–2060.
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<b>Q2</b>	<b>Do patients with cancer or other progressive illnesses who belong to a faith community have lower scores for symptoms such as anxiety pain etc. compared to patients who are not integrated in a faith community?</b>
<b>Patients</b>	Patients elderly and/or frail and/or end of life indications in a palliative facility Frail, aged, end of life adults Children in a palliative facility
<b>Intervention</b>	<b>patients who are integrated in a faith community</b>
<b>Comparator</b>	<b>patients who are not integrated in a faith community</b>
<b>Outcome</b>	Core outcome measures: Psychological outcomes Quality of life.
<b>Methodology</b>	Systematic reviews Randomized controlled trials Cohort studies Registry studies
<b>Extra</b>	ethnic, cultural, and religious

Cancer patients can face spiritual and existential issues involving their faith, their perceived relationship with God, and the possibility and meaning of death. Some cancer survivors report feelings of anger, isolation, and diminished self-esteem in response to such stress (NCI, 2004)

Studies:

Three international consensus based on literature review by experts are included [1-3]. 2 reviews and a systematic review.

Indications :

Cancer patients can face spiritual and existential issues involving their faith, their perceived relationship with God, and the possibility and meaning of death. Some cancer survivors report feelings of anger, isolation, and diminished self-esteem in response to such stress (1).

In addition, spiritual distress, although relatively under researched, has been identified in cancer patients.

Conclusions: Not conclusive. More research needed

References:

1. NCI (National Cancer Institute) Living beyond cancer: Finding a new balance. President's cancer panel 2003–2004 annual report. Bethesda, MD: Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health; 2004. [accessed May 4, 2006]. <http://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/ADVISORY/pcp/pcp03-04/Survivorship.pdf>.
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4. Miller DK, Chibnall JT, Videen SD, Duckro PN. Supportive affective group experience for persons with life threatening illness: Reducing spiritual, psychological, and death-related distress in dying patients. *J Palliat Med* 2005;8(2):333-43.
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8. RAMI BOU KHALIL , Attitudes, beliefs and perceptions regarding truth disclosure of cancer-related information in the Middle East: A review Cambridge University Press, 2012 1478-9515/12
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