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Family’s Perspective On Quality End-Of-Life Care For The Dying Patient

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ABSTRACT

Background: End-of-life care has mainly been viewed as a process of quantity of life, rather than quality of care. However, it is important to take into consideration the patient’s perspective, as well as that of bereaved family members, in order to provide smooth transitions throughout the end-of-life journey.

Objectives: The purpose of this integrative literature review was to identify the factors that influence family members’ perspectives on the quality of end-of-life care and to provide evidence based interventions regarding quality of life care to support family members during the dying process.

Method: An integrated literature review design was used to evaluate a previous research study. Search terms included “family’s perspectives”, “quality family caregiver’s view”, “bereaved family members”, “quality end-of-life”, “quality care”, “quality palliative care”, “quality hospice care”, and “communications”.

Results: Articles reviewed factors related to quality end-of-life care for the dying patient in family members’ perspective. Studies specified evidence-based nursing intervention that integrates health-oriented quality end-of-life concepts to support family members.

Conclusion: Healthcare providers need to acknowledge the importance of cultural beliefs, psychosocial needs and personal preferences in order to achieve the goal of providing quality end-of-life care.