

Impact of Culturally Competent Advance Care Planning for Korean Immigrants in a Community

Setting

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On my honor, I pledge that I have neither given nor received any unauthorized assistance on this paper. April 1, 2021, Sojung Suk.

Background and Purpose: Korean Immigrants (KIs) have less than optimal end of life care due to a lack of culturally competent advance care planning (CCACP), low completion rates of advance directives (ADs), and insufficient ACP resources in community settings. The purpose of this quality improvement project is to develop and evaluate the feasibility of a CCACP education program in community settings for KIs with limited English proficiency and life-limiting illnesses.

Methods: This project utilized a single group pre-and post-intervention design, which was implemented October 2020 in a primary care setting in California. Participants' advance care planning engagement survey (ACPES) score with a 55-item questionnaire at baseline and after the intervention was measured. All 24 KI participants received the four one-hour weekly CCACP educational sessions. The pre-and post-ACPES scores compared to determine the impact of the CCACP. All participants were encouraged and assisted to complete an AD at the end of the project.

Results: SPSS version 27 was used for data analysis of ACPES. Twenty-four patients agreed to participate in CCACP education during telephone interviews (80%). The median summary score of the pre-intervention ACPES score was 108.00 (IQR:83) and the median post-intervention score was 153.50 (IQR: 86). Overall, there was a median improvement of 37 points (IQR:29) in scores assessing ACP engagement behaviors, which was statistically significant, as evidenced by a p-value of 0.00 in the Wilcoxon signed-rank test. 20 participants completed ADs at the end of the intervention (83.3%).

Conclusion: CCACP educational intervention is feasible and implementation of the CCACP resulted in significant increases in ACPES scores and promotion of ADs for KIs in a community setting.

Implications: Findings suggest the educational intervention may have a significant impact on ACP engagement behaviors and quality of EOL care for KIs in a community setting. CCACP, furthermore, may be incorporated into current primary care practice routinely in community settings.

Keywords: Korean Immigrant, culturally competent advance care planning, end of life care, community setting, advance care planning engagement survey