



# An Approach to Advance Care Planning Discussions with Chinese-Immigrant Oncology Outpatients

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ABSTRACT



**Purpose:** To examine Chinese-immigrant cancer patients' openness to advance care planning in an outpatient oncology setting.

**Design:** Retrospective review of social work assessment and follow up data.

**Sample:** 150 Chinese-immigrant patient charts were reviewed (55% Cantonese, 45% Mandarin). All patients required an interpreter to receive medical care.

**Methods:** Data were collected from structured data fields and summarized descriptively.

**Findings:** Sixteen percent of patients had completed advance care plans prior to meeting with the oncology social worker. Twenty percent of patients agreed to complete a health care proxy after receiving culturally tailored education in their language of origin from the oncology social worker, while 75% remained open to ongoing consideration of advance care planning and healthcare proxy completion.

**Conclusions and Implications for Practice:** Oncology social workers can play an integral role in providing advocacy, education, and documentation around advance care plans for Chinese-immigrant patients with cancer, even if the social worker does not speak the patient's primary language.

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## COMPETING INTERESTS

The author has no competing interests to declare.

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