Advance Care Planning Engagement in a Multi-cultural Faith-based Community of largely Latinx Origin

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Statement of the Problem
• Advance care planning (ACP) involves documenting healthcare decisions informed by spiritual beliefs
• Challenges exist to completing ACP without guidance or education, especially in underserved and minority populations
• Healthcare crises often lead to forced decisions

Literature Review
Promotes early ACP discussions w/healthcare providers
Notes healthcare provider barriers
• Limited time with patients
• Lack confidence in ACP communication skills with diverse cultural and spiritual populations

Objectives
• Educate largely Latinx Catholic community in English and Spanish on ACP documentation
• Improve ACP understanding and confidence
• Determine participants’ readiness and confidence to complete ACP documents

Methods
One-hour ACP sessions in English & Spanish
• Local Catholic church
• Children’s Hospital meeting
• Zoom webinar through Latinx educational group
Participants surveyed using ACP-4 Engagement Survey to determine readiness and comfort in completing and discussing ACP

Conclusions
Sessions facilitated by someone from the same cultural, spiritual community empower and encourage ongoing community-based ACP dialogue.

Brief conversations enhance participants' confidence and readiness to engage with ACP document completion.

Participant Quotes
"Hablar con los que amo de este tema."
"Puedo hablar con mis hijos, aunque estén chiquitos. Sería más fácil empezar a su edad."
"Dejar escrita mi voluntad cuando este enfermo! "Aprendí mis derechos!"
"Keep up to date on my desires."
"My doctor never asks me these questions, why? I’ll be speaking with him about this next week!"
"I thought writing it down was all I needed to do!"

Findings
• 104 participants
• 40% completed a post-survey
• Majority will make ACP decisions <6 months
• Future Directions: Additional sessions are planned in the following months with the Vuela Latinx educational group

Participants’ readiness and comfort in completing and discussing ACP

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References

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Limitations
• COVID-19 pandemic limited group gatherings
• Participation hesitancy due to time, topic, or lack of understanding
• Technology use and Zoom challenges