



## **Defense Health Agency (DHA) Clinical Communities Speaker Series**

### **Resource List – May 2020**

#### **Review of Current Trends and Best Practices in Primary Care**

##### **Ethics: Advance Directives, Medical Power of Attorney, and Capacity**

The importance of advance care planning (ACP) has been increasingly recognized by health systems. Lawyers usually focus on advance directive documents however the documents are often derived without clinical context. [Improving Medical-Legal Advance Care Planning](#) describes the historical disconnects between the medical and legal practice of ACP, recommendations and products of the interprofessional panel and recommendations for future medical-legal collaboration. This article reports that aligning the medical and legal approaches to ACP is important to ensuring the quality and value of those efforts.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Healthy Aging Program published, [Advance Care Planning: Ensuring Your Wishes Are Known and Honored If You Are Unable to Speak for Yourself](#). This brief details the CDC's recommendations to incorporate ACP in the self-management approach to living with multiple chronic diseases. The CDC partnered with the Center for Practical Bioethics and also the Directors of Health Promotion and Education to develop an online course on advance care planning specifically designed for public health and aging network professionals.

[Advance Care Planning: Contemporary Issues and Future Directions](#) addresses how ACP can contribute to lowering medical expenditures during end of life care. Also discussed are public policies and community programs designed to increase the number of older adults who articulate their preferences using Advance Directives. This article details the need for further research and also highlights practices from other nations that may help improve quality end of life care in the United States.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a report on [Advance Directives: Information on Federal Oversight, Provider Implementation, and Prevalence](#). This report examines how The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) oversees providers' implementation of the Patient Self Determination Act (PSDA) requirement. It reviews the approaches the providers use to inform individuals on Advance Directives and the prevalence of Advance Directives across provider types. The GAO interviewed CMS officials and reviewed CMS documents, state survey data and current literature to compile this report.



## Defense Health Agency (DHA) Clinical Communities Speaker Series

### References

Carr, D., Luth, E.A. (2017). Advance Care Planning: Contemporary Issues and Future Directions.

*Innovation in Aging*. 1(1). <https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/jgx012>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015). *Advance Care Planning: Ensuring Your Wishes are Known and Honored If You are Unable to Speak for Yourself*.

<https://www.cdc.gov/aging/pdf/advanced-care-planning-critical-issue-brief.pdf>

Hooper, S., Sabatino, C.P., Sudore, R.L. (2020). Improving Medical-Legal Advance Care Planning. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpainsymman.2020.03.004>

United States Government Accountability Office. (2015). *Advance Directives: Information on Federal Oversight, Provider Implementation, and Prevalence*.

<https://www.gao.gov/assets/670/669906.pdf>