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Knowledge of, and participation in, advance care planning: A cross-sectional study of acute and critical care nurses perceptions

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ABSTRACT

Background: Nurses have a core role in facilitating discussions and enacting decisions about end-of-life issues for patients in hospitals. Nurses' own knowledge and attitudes may influence whether they engage in meaningful end-of-life conversations with patients.

Aims: To determine in a sample of nurses working in acute and critical care hospital wards:

- 1) their knowledge of advance care planning, including the authority of substitute decision-makers and legal validity of advance directives;
- 2) their own participation in advance care planning decision-making practices; and

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