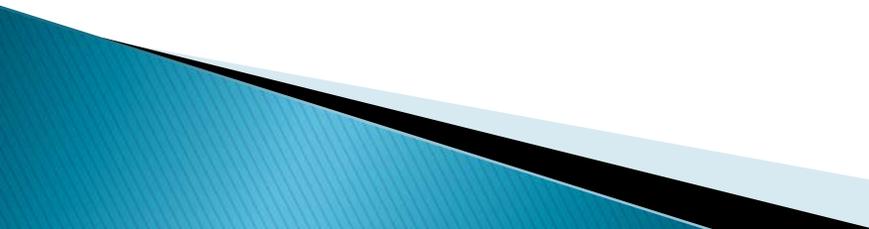


Emerging Issues in the Acute Care Context

Jonathan Breslin, PhD
Hospital Ethicist, Toronto area



The unfortunate reality

- ▶ 70% of Canadians will die in hospital; 10–15% of those will be admitted to an ICU during their final hospital admission
 - ▶ Most patients will not die at home with palliative care supports or in hospice
 - ▶ Home/hospice deaths will be preceded by at least one hospital admission
- 

Issue 1: Assault by CPR

- ▶ Some seniors will end up receiving harmful and non-beneficial CPR prior to their deaths
- ▶ The general public is grossly misinformed about the realities of in-hospital CPR



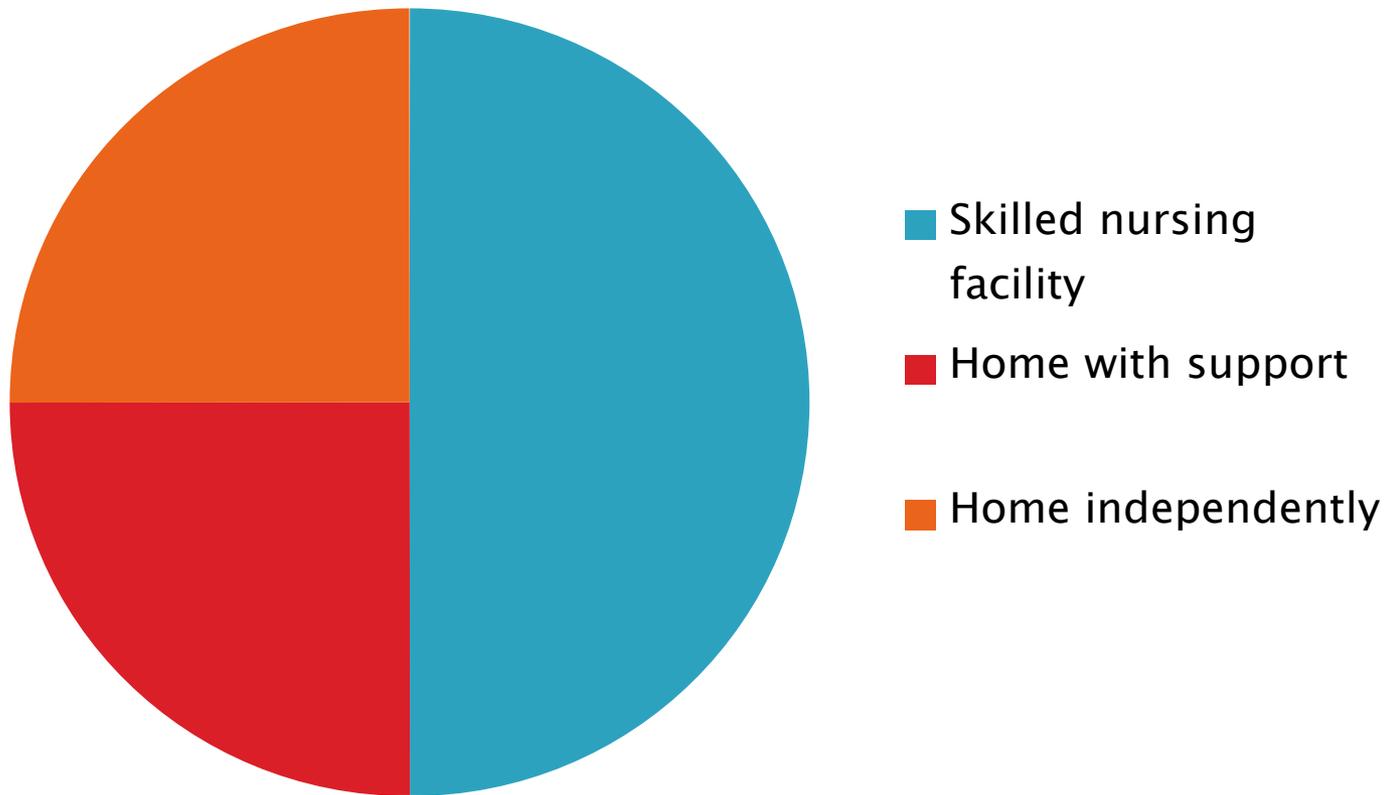
Issue 1: Assault by CPR

In-hospital CPR survival rates

Category	%
General pop > 75 yrs	15
With serious illness	10
With critical illness	2
Multiple risk factors	<1

Issue 1: Assault by CPR

Of those who survive



Issue 2: Rotting in the ICU

- ▶ Some seniors will die only after a prolonged admission to ICU, with aggressive and harmful medications and interventions, despite no hope of survival
- ▶ Why?
 - Family unable to say stop
 - Need to “fight” for mom/dad
 - Religious obligations

Issue 2: Rotting in the ICU



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A PARENTING FORUM AND COMMUNITY

FORUM SHOP MOST DISCU



Refresh

Forum » Toddler » Guy in my ICU right now is 95. Dead in bed. Body rotting away. Literally...

Guy in my ICU right now is 95. Dead in bed. Body rotting away. Literally rotting. Looks 100% like a corpse. On a vent. On blood pressure drips to keep his heart pumping as much as... (more)

It can. Etc. all because the wife says she wants him alive to celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary. First we thought " oh how sad she can't let go" but as the days have gone by, watching this man literally rot, we think maybe he did something awful to her and this is her revenge.

posted January 27th, 2012 at 3:25pm in Toddler

Issue 3: Stuck in hospital

- ▶ Patients are designated “alternate level of care (ALC)” when they no longer require acute care and are awaiting discharge to another setting (most often home or LTC)
 - ▶ In May 2016, 15% of all acute care beds in Ontario were occupied by ALC patients
- 

Issue 3: Stuck in hospital

- ▶ This has a significant impact on seniors:
 - ALC patients can wait weeks and sometimes months in hospital, leading to various adverse outcomes (delirium, deconditioning, med adverse events, falls, infections)
 - Causes backlogs in emergency departments, where other seniors can be stuck on stretchers for 24 hours or more waiting for a bed to open

Issue 4: MAID

- ▶ As of June, 2016, Canadians can legally request and receive medical assistance in dying (MAID) without requiring court approval
- ▶ More than 100 Canadians have received it since June

Issue 4: MAID

- ▶ Legislation requires a thorough process
 - signed request from competent patient in presence of witnesses
 - assessments by two independent clinicians
 - 10 day waiting period
- ▶ MAID poses a challenge for those who work in hospice/palliative care as many see it as antithetical to the philosophy of HPC



THANK
YOU