

# Advanced Care Planning

"How could a mandatory ACP system with the possibility of opting out in the Netherlands simultaneously benefit patients and the Dutch healthcare system, and how could such a system be implemented?"

## What is ACP?



A directive that allows patients to make preemptive decisions about their future health care, **outlining a person's wishes** regarding medical treatment

## Why?



Ageing Population



Soaring Healthcare Costs



Few discuss end-of-life

## ACP Benefits

### The quality of life

- Increased **Autonomy**
- Increased **Patient Satisfaction**
- **Less Aggressive Treatments**, while mortality remains the same

### Cost reduction

- Reduced **Hospitalizations**
- Reduced use of **ICUs**
- Reduced Use of **Life-Sustaining Treatments**

## Proposal for Required ACP

### Current challenges with implementing ACP



No clear trigger to initiate ACP



No standardized format for ACP discussion and documentation



Inadequate training of Medical professionals .

### Proposed Solution

ACP required for all people over the **age of 60**.

Standard format for ACP discussions and documenting ACP wishes.

**Mandatory ACP training** for medical professionals and medical students.

### Contents of Required ACP

- (1) Treatment preferences
- (2) End of Life wishes
- (3) Future Scenarios
  - palliative sedation and euthanasia
- (4) Power of Attourney



## Legal evidence

- **The Law on Organ Donation** (WOD) in the Netherlands **provides legal support** and legal precedent for a mandated form of ACP, with the possibility to opt out

## Limitations

- Shortage of healthcare staff
- High economic investment needed in the short - run