

King's Fund End of Life Care Poll

1. Thinking about what you would wish for your own care at the end of your life, please rank the following factors in order of importance to you (with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important).

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total	East of England	London	North East	Yorkshire and Humber	North West	South Central	South East Coast	South West	East Midlands	West Midlands
To be with family or friends	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.4	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.9	2.7	3.0	2.9
To be pain free	3.0	3.6	2.8	2.6	3.4	3.4	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.8	3.1
To retain my dignity (e.g. respectful care and support)	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.4	3.1	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.2
To be peaceful/calm	3.3	3.1	3.6	3.1	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.3
For people to listen and be respectful of my wishes	3.9	4.0	3.8	4.1	3.6	4.0	3.8	3.6	3.9	4.2	4.0
To be sure that I am not a burden on other people	4.8	4.4	4.8	4.7	5.0	4.7	4.8	5.0	5.2	4.7	4.4

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2. Have you ever discussed with anyone how you would like to be looked after if you did not have long to live?

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Yes	158	32%	22	40%	21	28%	6	22%	18	35%	22	34%	13	33%	13	34%	19	32%	13	33%	11	21%
No	343	68%	33	60%	53	72%	21	78%	34	65%	43	66%	26	67%	25	66%	40	68%	27	68%	41	79%

King's Fund End of Life Care Poll

2.i. Have you ever discussed with anybody your wishes for end of life care in respect to any of the following issues? - Medical needs (1)

Base: GPs who answered yes to q2 (158)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Yes	118	75%	19	86%	11	52%	5	83%	11	61%	15	68%	7	54%	11	85%	19	100%	12	92%	8	73%
No	35	22%	3	14%	8	38%	1	17%	6	33%	7	32%	5	38%	1	8%	0	0%	1	8%	3	27%
Not applicable	5	3%	0	0%	2	10%	0	0%	1	6%	0	0%	1	8%	1	8%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

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2.i. Have you ever discussed with anybody your wishes for end of life care in respect to any of the following issues? - Spiritual and religious needs (2)

Base: GPs who answered yes to q2 (158)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Yes	76	48%	13	59%	9	43%	2	33%	8	44%	10	45%	7	54%	6	46%	10	53%	6	46%	5	45%
No	48	30%	6	27%	6	29%	2	33%	5	28%	8	36%	4	31%	2	15%	7	37%	4	31%	4	36%
Not applicable	34	22%	3	14%	6	29%	2	33%	5	28%	4	18%	2	15%	5	38%	2	11%	3	23%	2	18%

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2.i. Have you ever discussed with anybody your wishes for end of life care in respect to any of the following issues? - Privacy and peace (3)

Base: GPs who answered yes to q2 (158)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Yes	93	59%	15	68%	14	67%	4	67%	7	39%	13	59%	6	46%	6	46%	11	58%	8	62%	9	82%
No	61	39%	7	32%	7	33%	2	33%	9	50%	9	41%	6	46%	6	46%	8	42%	5	38%	2	18%
Not applicable	4	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	11%	0	0%	1	8%	1	8%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

King's Fund End of Life Care Poll

2.i. Have you ever discussed with anybody your wishes for end of life care in respect to any of the following issues? - Dying with dignity – e.g. respectful care and support (4)

Base: GPs who answered yes to q2 (158)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Yes	123	78%	19	86%	13	62%	4	67%	11	61%	19	86%	10	77%	10	77%	14	74%	12	92%	11	100%
No	29	18%	3	14%	6	29%	2	33%	6	33%	2	9%	2	15%	2	15%	5	26%	1	8%	0	0%
Not applicable	6	4%	0	0%	2	10%	0	0%	1	6%	1	5%	1	8%	1	8%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

King's Fund End of Life Care Poll

2.i. Have you ever discussed with anybody your wishes for end of life care in respect to any of the following issues? - Pain relief (5)

Base: GPs who answered yes to q2 (158)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Yes	106	67%	12	55%	13	62%	4	67%	8	44%	16	73%	8	62%	10	77%	15	79%	11	85%	9	82%
No	46	29%	10	45%	5	24%	2	33%	8	44%	6	27%	4	31%	3	23%	4	21%	2	15%	2	18%
Not applicable	6	4%	0	0%	3	14%	0	0%	2	11%	0	0%	1	8%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

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2.i. Have you ever discussed with anybody your wishes for end of life care in respect to any of the following issues? - Where you would prefer to die (6)

Base: GPs who answered yes to q2 (158)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Yes	90	57%	14	64%	13	62%	3	50%	6	33%	16	73%	6	46%	6	46%	8	42%	11	85%	7	64%
No	63	40%	8	36%	6	29%	3	50%	11	61%	6	27%	6	46%	6	46%	11	58%	2	15%	4	36%
Not applicable	5	3%	0	0%	2	10%	0	0%	1	6%	0	0%	1	8%	1	8%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

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2.i. Have you ever discussed with anybody your wishes for end of life care in respect to any of the following issues? - Who will care for your pets when you die (7)

Base: GPs who answered yes to q2 (158)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Yes	37	23%	9	41%	3	14%	0	0%	6	33%	3	14%	2	15%	1	8%	9	47%	4	31%	0	0%
No	64	41%	6	27%	8	38%	4	67%	6	33%	11	50%	6	46%	3	23%	6	32%	8	62%	6	55%
Not applicable	57	36%	7	32%	10	48%	2	33%	6	33%	8	36%	5	38%	9	69%	4	21%	1	8%	5	45%

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2.i. Have you ever discussed with anybody your wishes for end of life care in respect to any of the following issues? - None of these (8)

Base: GPs who answered yes to q2 (158)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Yes	7	4%	1	5%	2	10%	1	17%	2	11%	0	0%	1	8%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
No	34	22%	10	45%	3	14%	0	0%	4	22%	3	14%	3	23%	0	0%	6	32%	4	31%	1	9%
Not applicable	117	74%	11	50%	16	76%	5	83%	12	67%	19	86%	9	69%	13	100%	13	68%	9	69%	10	91%

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2.ii. Which of these statements best describes why you have not discussed any of these issues with anyone?

Base: GPs who answered no to q2 (343)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
I don't feel comfortable talking about death	23	7%	4	12%	2	4%	2	10%	2	6%	1	2%	2	8%	1	4%	3	8%	4	15%	2	5%
Death feels a long way off	146	43%	12	36%	26	49%	10	48%	12	35%	20	47%	14	54%	11	44%	16	40%	11	41%	14	34%
There is no one available for me to talk to about death	10	3%	1	3%	1	2%	1	5%	0	0%	3	7%	0	0%	3	12%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%
Other people do not want to talk to me about my death	20	6%	2	6%	3	6%	1	5%	2	6%	2	5%	2	8%	1	4%	4	10%	1	4%	2	5%
I have just never thought about it	144	42%	14	42%	21	40%	7	33%	18	53%	17	40%	8	31%	9	36%	16	40%	11	41%	23	56%

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3. Which of the following preparations, if any, have you made for your end of life care and death?

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
I have made my wishes and preferences about my end of life care clear through a written document (sometimes called a 'living will' or "advance care plan")	25	5%	5	9%	4	5%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	3	8%	0	0%	7	12%	1	3%	4	8%
I have made provisions to support myself financially if I became terminally ill	194	39%	20	36%	21	28%	5	19%	23	44%	34	52%	9	23%	17	45%	28	47%	18	45%	19	37%
I have made clear my wishes about organ donation to relatives	212	42%	22	40%	21	28%	12	44%	23	44%	29	45%	22	56%	17	45%	35	59%	11	28%	20	38%
I have made my funeral wishes/plans known to my family	114	23%	14	25%	14	19%	5	19%	9	17%	15	23%	8	21%	10	26%	17	29%	11	28%	11	21%
None of these	177	35%	26	47%	31	42%	12	44%	18	35%	20	31%	11	28%	11	29%	13	22%	15	38%	20	38%

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4. How would you describe your role as a GP in end of life care?

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Essential, it is an integral part of my job	379	76%	43	78%	45	61%	26	96%	33	63%	57	88%	29	74%	27	71%	46	78%	35	88%	38	73%
It is important, but not a major priority	104	21%	10	18%	25	34%	0	0%	17	33%	6	9%	8	21%	9	24%	12	20%	5	13%	12	23%
It is mostly the role of other health care providers	18	4%	2	4%	4	5%	1	4%	2	4%	2	3%	2	5%	2	5%	1	2%	0	0%	2	4%

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4.i. Which of the following healthcare providers do you think should have the lead role in end of life care?

Base: GPs who answered 'It is mostly the role of other health care providers' to q4 (18)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Disease specialists	1	6%	0	0%	1	25%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
District nurses	2	11%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	50%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	50%
Informal family carers	1	6%	1	50%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Palliative care nurses	11	61%	0	0%	3	75%	1	100%	0	0%	2	100%	2	100%	2	100%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%
Someone else [specify who]	3	17%	1	50%	0	0%	0	0%	1	50%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	50%

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5. Thinking about a GP's role in end of life care, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? - GPs should play more of a role in the end of life care of their patients. (1)

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Agree strongly	140	28%	18	33%	17	23%	9	33%	11	21%	23	35%	10	26%	10	26%	19	32%	9	23%	14	27%
Agree	256	51%	24	44%	42	57%	15	56%	26	50%	28	43%	23	59%	24	63%	28	47%	23	58%	23	44%
Disagree	70	14%	9	16%	10	14%	2	7%	9	17%	10	15%	4	10%	2	5%	9	15%	6	15%	9	17%
Disagree strongly	5	1%	2	4%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	0	0%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%
Don't know	30	6%	2	4%	5	7%	1	4%	5	10%	4	6%	1	3%	2	5%	3	5%	2	5%	5	10%

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5. Thinking about a GP's role in end of life care, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? - GPs should actively encourage patients to make plans for their end of life care. (2)

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Agree strongly	85	17%	14	25%	13	18%	3	11%	5	10%	11	17%	7	18%	3	8%	13	22%	6	15%	10	19%
Agree	289	58%	32	58%	42	57%	16	59%	32	62%	39	60%	25	64%	24	63%	28	47%	24	60%	27	52%
Disagree	60	12%	4	7%	9	12%	3	11%	10	19%	8	12%	3	8%	4	11%	8	14%	5	13%	6	12%
Disagree strongly	14	3%	4	7%	5	7%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	2	5%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%
Don't know	53	11%	1	2%	5	7%	5	19%	5	10%	6	9%	2	5%	6	16%	10	17%	5	13%	8	15%

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6. To what extent do you believe your personal attitudes towards death affect the way you interact with patients on end of life issues?

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
To a great extent	97	19%	10	18%	14	19%	6	22%	6	12%	17	26%	7	18%	6	16%	15	25%	7	18%	9	17%
To some extent	319	64%	37	67%	43	58%	13	48%	38	73%	41	63%	28	72%	26	68%	38	64%	23	58%	32	62%
To no extent	75	15%	7	13%	15	20%	6	22%	8	15%	7	11%	4	10%	4	11%	4	7%	9	23%	11	21%
Prefer not to answer	10	2%	1	2%	2	3%	2	7%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	5%	2	3%	1	3%	0	0%

King's Fund End of Life Care Poll

7. Which of the following best describes how you feel when talking about death with patients and their relatives?

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
I feel very comfortable talking about death	83	17%	18	33%	10	14%	5	19%	3	6%	10	15%	5	13%	4	11%	11	19%	9	23%	8	15%
I feel fairly comfortable talking about death	270	54%	22	40%	34	46%	19	70%	32	62%	36	55%	25	64%	21	55%	35	59%	18	45%	28	54%
I have no strong feelings either way	81	16%	7	13%	14	19%	2	7%	11	21%	12	18%	4	10%	11	29%	6	10%	8	20%	6	12%
I feel fairly uncomfortable talking about death	57	11%	8	15%	16	22%	1	4%	4	8%	6	9%	3	8%	2	5%	4	7%	5	13%	8	15%
I feel very uncomfortable talking about death	10	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	4%	1	2%	2	5%	0	0%	3	5%	0	0%	2	4%

King's Fund End of Life Care Poll

8. Thinking about how you interact with patients at the end of their lives, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? - A GP's personal attitude towards death inevitably affects the advice they give patients on end of life care. (1)

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Strongly agree	46	9%	7	13%	8	11%	1	4%	2	4%	8	12%	4	10%	3	8%	7	12%	3	8%	3	6%
Agree	273	54%	25	45%	37	50%	16	59%	29	56%	32	49%	29	74%	25	66%	37	63%	19	48%	24	46%
Disagree	123	25%	19	35%	23	31%	6	22%	16	31%	19	29%	5	13%	7	18%	6	10%	7	18%	15	29%
Disagree strongly	22	4%	2	4%	1	1%	1	4%	1	2%	4	6%	0	0%	1	3%	3	5%	6	15%	3	6%
Don't know	33	7%	1	2%	4	5%	2	7%	4	8%	2	3%	1	3%	2	5%	5	8%	5	13%	7	13%
Prefer not to answer	4	1%	1	2%	1	1%	1	4%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%

King's Fund End of Life Care Poll

8. Thinking about how you interact with patients at the end of their lives, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? - People who deal with death in their personal lives are better equipped to deal with death in their professional lives. (2)

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Strongly agree	47	9%	10	18%	6	8%	0	0%	5	10%	7	11%	3	8%	2	5%	7	12%	4	10%	3	6%
Agree	228	46%	27	49%	39	53%	12	44%	24	46%	22	34%	21	54%	19	50%	29	49%	17	43%	18	35%
Disagree	119	24%	11	20%	13	18%	11	41%	12	23%	24	37%	5	13%	8	21%	10	17%	10	25%	15	29%
Disagree strongly	20	4%	1	2%	5	7%	0	0%	2	4%	5	8%	2	5%	1	3%	2	3%	0	0%	2	4%
Don't know	81	16%	5	9%	10	14%	4	15%	9	17%	7	11%	8	21%	7	18%	9	15%	8	20%	14	27%
Prefer not to answer	6	1%	1	2%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%	2	3%	1	3%	0	0%

King's Fund End of Life Care Poll

8. Thinking about how you interact with patients at the end of their lives, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? - I would value access to counselling or similar support for myself to help me to deal with patients who are at the end of their lives. (3)

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Strongly agree	40	8%	5	9%	6	8%	0	0%	2	4%	8	12%	2	5%	3	8%	4	7%	4	10%	6	12%
Agree	201	40%	22	40%	35	47%	10	37%	22	42%	23	35%	18	46%	10	26%	25	42%	18	45%	18	35%
Disagree	147	29%	17	31%	19	26%	10	37%	16	31%	15	23%	10	26%	17	45%	21	36%	5	13%	17	33%
Disagree strongly	35	7%	4	7%	3	4%	1	4%	5	10%	9	14%	4	10%	3	8%	3	5%	2	5%	1	2%
Don't know	71	14%	6	11%	7	9%	6	22%	7	13%	10	15%	5	13%	5	13%	5	8%	11	28%	9	17%
Prefer not to answer	7	1%	1	2%	4	5%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	0	0%	1	2%

King's Fund End of Life Care Poll

9. Thinking about patients that you care for at the end of their lives, how many of them are comfortable discussing death?

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Very few	45	9%	6	11%	7	9%	1	4%	4	8%	8	12%	3	8%	3	8%	3	5%	5	13%	5	10%
Some	266	53%	32	58%	43	58%	19	70%	33	63%	30	46%	23	59%	16	42%	24	41%	23	58%	23	44%
About half	111	22%	7	13%	15	20%	4	15%	13	25%	18	28%	7	18%	11	29%	17	29%	6	15%	13	25%
Most	73	15%	10	18%	6	8%	3	11%	2	4%	8	12%	6	15%	8	21%	15	25%	6	15%	9	17%
Nearly all of my patients feel uncomfortable talking about death	6	1%	0	0%	3	4%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	4%

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10. Thinking about patients that you've cared for at the end of their life, to what extent do you agree or disagree that your patients who are religious are generally better prepared for the end of their lives?

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Strongly agree	65	13%	5	9%	9	12%	3	11%	4	8%	11	17%	7	18%	5	13%	5	8%	7	18%	9	17%
Agree	214	43%	25	45%	40	54%	7	26%	24	46%	25	38%	19	49%	14	37%	27	46%	15	38%	18	35%
Disagree	118	24%	12	22%	15	20%	7	26%	18	35%	12	18%	7	18%	12	32%	16	27%	8	20%	11	21%
Strongly disagree	10	2%	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%	3	5%	3	8%	1	2%
Don't know	87	17%	10	18%	9	12%	9	33%	5	10%	16	25%	6	15%	7	18%	6	10%	7	18%	12	23%
Prefer not to answer	7	1%	2	4%	1	1%	1	4%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	3%	0	0%	1	2%

King's Fund End of Life Care Poll

11. How would you rate the standard of end of life care in England?

Base: All GPs (501)

	Total		East of England		London		North East		Yorkshire and Humber		North West		South Central		South East Coast		South West		East Midlands		West Midlands	
Very good	27	5%	3	5%	5	7%	2	7%	4	8%	2	3%	2	5%	2	5%	3	5%	1	3%	3	6%
Good	189	38%	21	38%	24	32%	14	52%	15	29%	30	46%	15	38%	12	32%	27	46%	14	35%	17	33%
Acceptable	221	44%	26	47%	31	42%	10	37%	27	52%	21	32%	18	46%	18	47%	25	42%	20	50%	25	48%
Poor	61	12%	5	9%	12	16%	1	4%	5	10%	12	18%	4	10%	6	16%	4	7%	5	13%	7	13%
Very poor	3	1%	0	0%	2	3%	0	0%	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%