Religion and Spirituality in Medicine: Physicians' Perspectives

Brief Description: In 2003 we surveyed 1144 US physicians from all specialities to describe physicians' religious characteristics and compare them to those of the general US population, and to explore the ways physicians think about and address religious and spiritual issues in the clinical encounter. As the first study of its kind, this project included a few questions about a wide variety of topics, including spiritual inquiry, prayer with patients, the impact of religion on patient's health, morally controversial topics such as abortion and terminal sedation, conscience and responding to patient requests for controversial interventions, experience with chaplains, and responses to patient reports of depressed mood (see linked publications). For more information about this or related studies, or to inquire about analyzing data from them, please contact us at medrelig@uchicago.edu.

Funding: This study was funded by grant support from The Greenwall Foundation, New York, NY, "The Integration of Religion and Spirituality in Patient Care among U.S. Physicians: A Three-Part Study," and via the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program (Drs. Curlin, Chin, Lantos).

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