

Upcoming Dialogue Tackles End of Life Communication Issues and Strategies

October 16th · 3pm to 4:30pm
UWM's Zelazo Center,
Room 171.

The Center on Age & Community (CAC) is pleased to present:
**“Dialogues in Best Practices: How to Best
Communicate End of Life Issues with
Older Adults with End-Stage Dementia
and their Families”**

Should doctors always tell older adults how long they have to live? How much of a role should families play in communication about end of life issues? How does communication about end of life issues differ in various cultures? What are the ethical/spiritual issues at the end of life?

DESIGNED TO RAISE AND ANSWER QUESTIONS by and for both researchers and practitioners, the Dialogue will feature a moderated panel discussion with active participation by the audience. The panel will include a geriatric physician and a nurse practitioner from Community Care, a chaplain from a local hospice organization, and a family caregiver. CAC Post-Doctoral Fellow Jung Kwak, whose research specialty is end-of-life decision-making among culturally diverse groups of older adults, will also join the panel. Each panel member will briefly introduce their area of focus, after which each will pose one question to the audience to stimulate active discussion.

In addition to identifying the challenges associated with end of life treatments and care, the dialogue will explore emerging models of care with a focus on how family and professional caregivers can improve communication. “We hope to discuss examples of the best practices in the country,” said Kwak. It is important to realize that, “...in different cultures, the norms about how you make decisions can be very different.” As communication regarding end of life issues improves, researchers and practitioners alike expect that the quality of health care and satisfaction with that care will increase.

The Dialogue is free, but registration is required.
Visit www.aging.uwm.edu to register or call 414.229.2740.

Metered parking is available in the lot behind Zelazo and on surrounding streets, as well as in the UWM Union garage.

