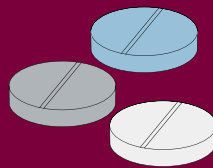


CONTINUITY OF PHYSICIAN CARE OVER THE LAST YEAR OF LIFE

Overall continuity of care (degree to which patients experience their health care as connected and coordinated between health care providers) is low in the last year of life.

Lower continuity among patients with:

- Younger age
- Co-morbidity
- Terminal illness (i.e. cancer) cause of death
- Organ failure cause of death



Higher continuity among patients with:

- Older age
- Rural residence
- Frailty cause of death
- Sudden (unexpected) causes of death

18
average

Number of outpatient physician encounters in the last year of life.

37%

of outpatient physician visits were with patients' usual family physician.

Citation:

[Howard M, Hafid A, Webber C, Isenberg S, Gayowsky A, Jones A, et al. Continuity of physician care over the last year of life in different cause of death categories: A retrospective population-based study. CMAJ Open. 2022.](#)

Family Medicine

