

# End-of-Life care through the eyes of 367 patients and 242 relatives

*the importance of continuity of care and bereavement support*

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## Prospective, longitudinal, multicenter, observational eQuiPe study

### Methods

- Adult patients with stage IV cancer
- Recruited in 40 Dutch hospitals
- Questionnaire data linked to clinical data from NCR
- Satisfaction with care: EORTC IN-PATSAT32 (score 0-100)
- Quality of care: VOICES-sf and self-composed items
- Descriptives and linear regression analysis



## Characteristics

	Patients	Relatives
AGE	66 (SD 9) years	62 (SD 12) years
♀♂	50% female	60% female
🎓	30% low 40% medium 29% high	26% low 40% medium 32% high



## Key messages

- Quality of end-of-life care for patients perceived as good
- Continuity of care plays an important role in the overall quality of care
- More attention needed for relatives, also after the patient's death



## Main results

**72 (SD 21)**  
Patient's satisfaction with care increased with continuity of care ( $\beta$  2.1) and Information provision ( $\beta$  1.0)

**52%**  
Relatives did not receive care for themselves

**59 (SD 28)**  
Relative's satisfaction with care increased with continuity of care ( $\beta$  2.6)

**96%**  
Patients were treated with respect and dignity

**93%**  
Relatives received enough space to say goodbye

**73%**  
Patients died at home

**87%**  
Patients died peacefully

**92%**  
Relatives were treated tactfully by healthcare professionals

**1 in 5**  
Relatives received no information about bereavement but would have liked to



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Last 3 months of life

Last 7 days of life

Death

6 months after death