

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910971070503321
Titolo	Care of the dying patient // edited by David A. Fleming and John C. Hagan III
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Columbia, Mo., : University of Missouri Press, c2010
ISBN	9780826272218 0826272215
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	xi, 154 p
Altri autori (Persone)	FlemingDavid A. <1948-> HaganJohn C
Disciplina	616/.029
Soggetti	Terminal care Caregivers - Psychology Pain - Prevention Terminally ill - Psychology
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Originally published as a series of articles in Missouri medicine.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Contents -- Foreword -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- Part 1 Control of Suffering -- 1 Pain Management at the End of Life -- 2 Relieving Pain: Today's Legal and Ethical Risks -- 3 Relieving Non-pain Suffering at the End of Life -- Part 2 The Needs of Special Populations -- 4 Questions and Answers about Hospice: A Guide for Physicians -- 5 The Burden of Caregiving at the End of Life -- 6 Helping Older Patients and Their Families Make Decisions about End-of-Life Care -- 7 Cultural Sensitivity in End-of-Life Discussions -- Part 3 Psychological and Spiritual Needs -- 8 Redefining Hope for the Terminally Ill -- 9 Spirituality and End-of-Life Care -- 10 The Path Ahead: Difficult Lessons for Physicians and Society -- Notes on the Contributors -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	Although the need for improved care for dying patients is widely recognized and frequently discussed, few books address the needs of the physicians, nurses, social workers, therapists, hospice team members, and pastoral counselors involved in care. Care of the Dying Patient contains material not found in other sources, offering advice and solutions to anyone-professional caregiver or family member-

confronted with incurable illness and death. Its authors have lectured and published extensively on care of the dying patient and here review a wide range of topics to show that relief of physical suffering is not the only concern in providing care. This collection encompasses diverse aspects of end-of-life care across multiple disciplines, offering a broad perspective on such central issues as control of pain and other symptoms, spirituality, the needs of caregivers, and special concerns regarding the elderly. In its pages, readers will find out how to: \* effectively utilize palliative-care services and activate timely referral to hospice, \* arrange for care that takes into account patients' cultural beliefs, and \* respond to spiritual and psychological distress, including the loss of hope that often overshadows physical suffering. The authors especially emphasize palliative care and hospice, since some physicians fear that such referrals may be viewed by patients and families as abandonment. They also address ethical and legal risks in pain management and warn that fear of overprescribing pain medication may inadvertently lead to ineffective pain relief and even place the treating team at risk of liability for undertreatment of pain. While physicians have the ability to treat disease, they also help to determine the time and place of death, and they must recognize that end-of-life choices are made more complex than ever before by advances in medicine and at the same time increasingly important. Care of the Dying Patient addresses some of the challenges frequently confronted in terminal care and points the way toward a more compassionate way of death.

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