Use of advanced imaging in the 30 days prior to death

**METRIC**
Use of advanced imaging in the 30 days prior to death

**UTILIZATION:** 49%

**BACKGROUND**
Use of advanced imaging, such as PET, CT and bone scans at the end of life can create unnecessary anxiety, lead to unnecessary tests or procedures, and create additional medical bills for patients without prolonging life or improving its quality. Experts agree that the use of advanced imaging should be avoided at the end of life.

**POPULATION**
N = 4525
Inclusion criteria:
- Solid tumor diagnosed January 1, 2007 to May 31, 2014
- Enrolled with at least one claim in the 3 months prior to death
- Patient died
Exclusion criteria:
- Stage in situ

**DEFINITIONS**
- Advanced Imaging: CT, MRI, PET, and radionuclide bone scans
- Time period: Last 30 days of life
- Cause of Death: All

**RESULTS**
Clinic variation in use of advanced imaging prior to death ranges from no use at all to use in 100% of patients.

**UTILIZATION BY CLINIC**

**UTILIZATION BY IMAGING TYPE**
CT scans were the most common imaging modality at end of life.

**UTILIZATION BY AGE OF DEATH**
The use of advanced imaging decreases as patient age of death increases.