**END OF LIFE**

**PLACE OF DEATH**

**METRIC**
Location of death including hospital inpatient, emergency department, and hospice care

**INPATIENT: 34%**

**EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT: 2%**

**HOSPICE: 45%**

**OTHER: 18%**

**BACKGROUND**
Many patients prefer to spend their last days with friends and family at home or in a comfortable homelike setting. Place of death is now an indicator of the quality of end-of-life care. Currently, a large proportion of deaths from terminal illnesses occur in hospitals. Improving patient education, addressing goals of care early in the disease course, and providing supportive services offered outside the hospital at the time of death increases patient and family well-being. In contrast, hospitalization near time of death may result in invasive or aggressive treatments with negative effects on patient quality of life and higher costs for patients and families.

**RESULTS**

**PLACE OF DEATH BY AGE OF DEATH**

*HOSPICE*

- Average: 45%
  - < 40: 44%
  - 40s: 42%
  - 50s: 46%
  - 60-64: 45%

*INPATIENT*

- Average: 34%
  - < 40: 41%
  - 40s: 38%
  - 50s: 34%
  - 60-64: 33%

*EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT*

- Average: 2%
  - < 40: 0%
  - 40s: 3%
  - 50s: 2%
  - 60-64: 2%

*HOSPICE*

- Average: 45%
  - < 40: 44%
  - 40s: 42%
  - 50s: 46%
  - 60-64: 45%

*OTHER*

- Average: 18%
  - < 40: 14%
  - 40s: 16%
  - 50s: 18%
  - 60-64: 20%

**POPULATION**

N = 1628
Inclusion criteria:
- Solid tumor diagnosis
- Diagnosis January 1, 2007 to May 31, 2014
- Enrolled with at least one claim in the 3 months prior to death
- Age 18-65 at time of death
- Patient died

Exclusion criteria:
- Stage in situ

**DEFINITIONS**
- Inpatient admissions: Includes admissions directly to hospital or through ED
- ED visit: Care in the emergency department that did not result in an inpatient admission
- Hospice use: Two different days with a hospice claim in the last 90 days of life
- Place of Death was assigned based on the following hierarchy:
  - Inpatient: Admissions in last 2 days of life; if none,
  - ED: Visit in the last 2 days of life; if none,
  - Hospice: 2 different days with hospice claim in last 90 days of life; if none,
  - Other
- Cause of Death: All