

Poll: Aging US in denial about long-term care need

April 24 2013, by Jennifer Agiesta

(AP)—A new poll finds that Americans underestimate their chances of needing long-term care as they get older—and are taking few steps to get ready.

The [poll](#) examines how people 40 and over are preparing for this difficult and often pricey reality of aging. Two-thirds say they've done little to no planning.

In fact, 3 in 10 would rather not think about getting older at all. Only a quarter predict it's very likely that they'll need help getting around or caring for themselves during their senior years.

That's a surprise considering the poll found more than half of the 40-plus crowd already have been caregivers for an impaired relative or friend.

The poll was conducted by the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research with funding from the SCAN Foundation.

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