

Prompts may up goals-of-care dialogues at outpatient visits

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(HealthDay)—A patient-specific preconversation communication-

priming intervention targeting patients and clinicians is associated with an increase in goals-of-care discussions among patients with serious illness, according to a study published online May 26 in *JAMA Internal Medicine*.

J. Randall Curtis, M.D., M.P.H., from the University of Washington in Seattle, and colleagues randomized clinicians to the bilateral, preconversation, communication-priming intervention (65 clinicians; 249 [patients](#)) or usual care (67 clinicians; 288 patients). The trial was conducted among patients with serious illness in outpatient clinics.

The researchers observed a significant increase in goals-of-care discussions at the target visit in the intervention versus the control group (74 versus 31 percent; P

"This [intervention](#) increased the occurrence, documentation, and quality of goals-of-care communication during routine outpatient visits and increased goal-concordant care at three months among patients with stable goals," the authors write.

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