



Symposium: Doctor's beliefs and their impact on health care

Niels Christian Hvidt

Professor of Spiritual Care LMU Associate Professor, SDU

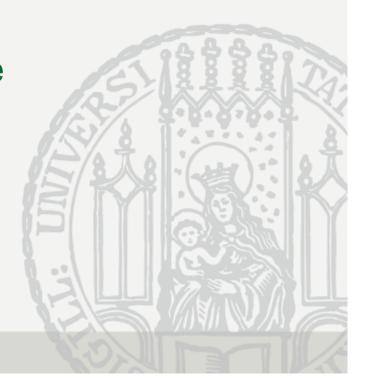






Physician Values impact medicine:

- 1. Ethics
- 2. Communication
- 3. Understanding of own practice







Symposium IV: Doctors Beliefs, 23rd May 14:00-15:30

Chair: Prof. Dr. Niels Christian Hvidt (Germany/Denmark)

This symposium contains short presentations (15 minutes) about local results and methodical specialties. The chair gives a longer introduction about the shared research idea and background, and about the common aims, methods etc.

13:30-13:50

Shared Research Ideas, Preliminary Findings

Chair





13.50-14:00

Quality of Life, Religiosity/Spirituality and Relationship to German Doctors Addressing Spiritual Issues in Private Practice

Prof. Dr. med. Edgar Voltmer

Chair in Health Sciences, Friedensau Adventist University, Möckern-Friedensau, Germany (Co-authors: Büssing A, Koenig HG, Al Zaben F.)







14:00-14:10

Doctors' Beliefs and Medical Practice: Findings from two Swiss Cohorts

Dr. med. René Hefti & Dr. phil. Stefan Rademacher

Research Institute for Spirituality and Health RISH, Switzerland









14:10-14:20

Religion-Associated Variations in Physicians' Responses to Basic Mental Health Concerns

Prof. Farr A. Curlin, M.D.







14:20-14:30

Psychiatric Staff's Religious/Spiritual Belief and its Influence on the Therapeutic Process

Dr. Eunmi Lee

Department of Caritas Science and Christian Social Welfare, Faculty of Theology, Albert-Ludwig-University Freiburg/Bg., Germany







14:30-14:40

The Role of Religion/Spirituality in Medical Management and Decision Making in Obstetrics and Neonatology; A Survey among Medical Professionals

Dr. Inga Wermuth & Prof. Dr. Andreas Schulze





Perinatal Centre Munich-Großhadern, Division of Neonatology, Munich, Germany



14.40-15:00

Discussion









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Medical symbols

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up" (John 3:14).







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Christus Medicus Dura Europos Ca. 256 - First image of Christ











Politics of Secularism

 SCHULMAN, A. 2011. The secular contract: the politics of enlightenment, New York, NY, Continuum. Alex Schulman

The Secular Contract

The Politics of Enlightenment





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Why study Physician Values?

- Values form ethics
 - CURLIN, F. A., LAWRENCE, R. E., CHIN, M. H. & LANTOS, J. D. 2007. Religion, Conscience, and Controversial Clinical Practices. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 356, 593-600.
- Values form communication
 - SUCHMAN, A. L. & MATTHEWS, D. A. 1988. What makes the patient-doctor relationship therapeutic? Exploring the connexional dimension of medical care. *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 108, 125-130.
- Values form physician recommendations

CURLIN, F. A., LAWRENCE, R. E., CHIN, M. H. & LANTOS, J. D. 2007. Religion, Conscience, and Controversial Clinical Practices. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 356, 593-600

- Values form physicians' own coping
 - HEIM, E. 1991. Job stressors and coping in health professions. *Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics*, 55, 90-99.
- Culture forms values and beliefs

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Why study Physician Values?

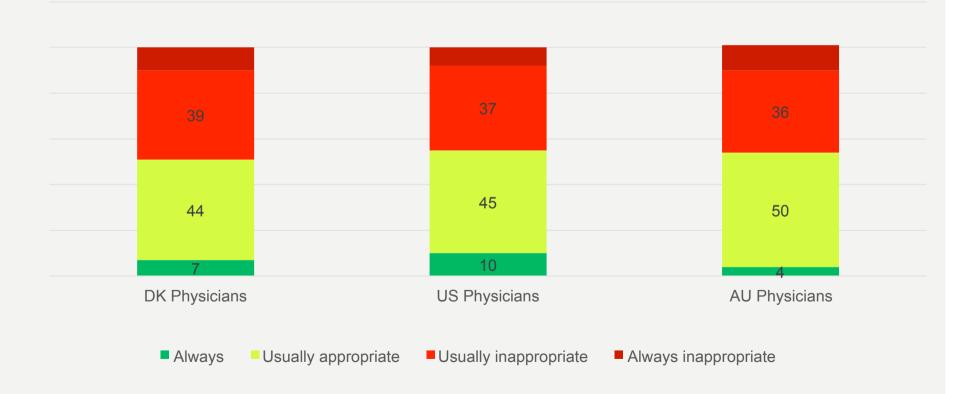
- Distinction in Bioethics between Normative and Empirical Ethics – see What Can the Social Sciences Contribute to the Study of Ethics? Theoretical, Empirical and Substantive Considerations," *Bioethics* 16 (April 2002): 89-113
- Empirical research can be important even from a theological viewpoint, to quote Karl Rahner:
 - It is s at least possible that the very 'detail' of which the theologian is ignorant, or of which he has only a vague notion, might be the decisive factor in his case; it might be the very detail which would alter the whole conclusion." *Theological Investigations* 9: 205-24; 225-52]
- Better empirical knowledge of the connection between personal values and ethical standpoints will help make even normative, moral bioethics rest on a more informed and transparent foundation.





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In general, is it appropriate for a physician to discuss religious/spiritual issues when a patient brings them up? (%)



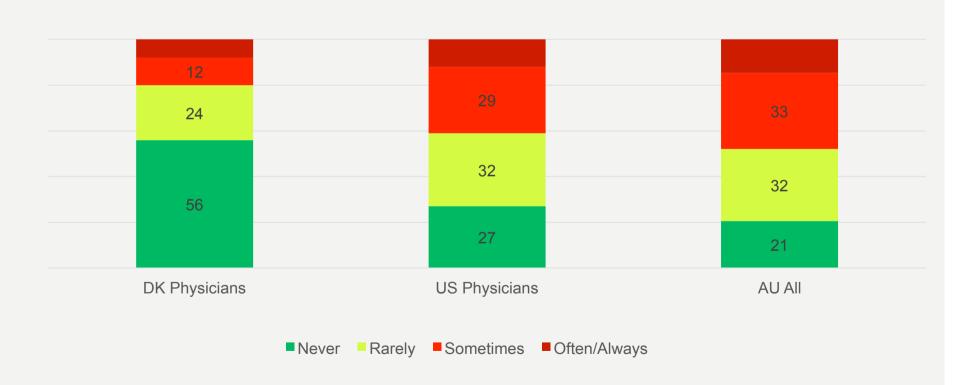


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When religious/spiritual issues come up in discussions with patients, how often do you respond in the following ways? *I respectfully share my own religious ideas and experiences.* (%)



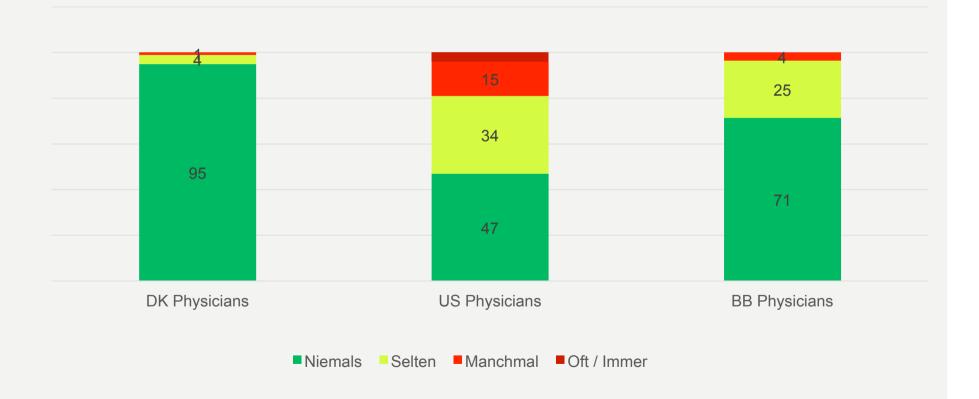


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When religious/spiritual issues come up in discussions with patients, how often do you respond in the following ways? *I pray with the patient* (%)



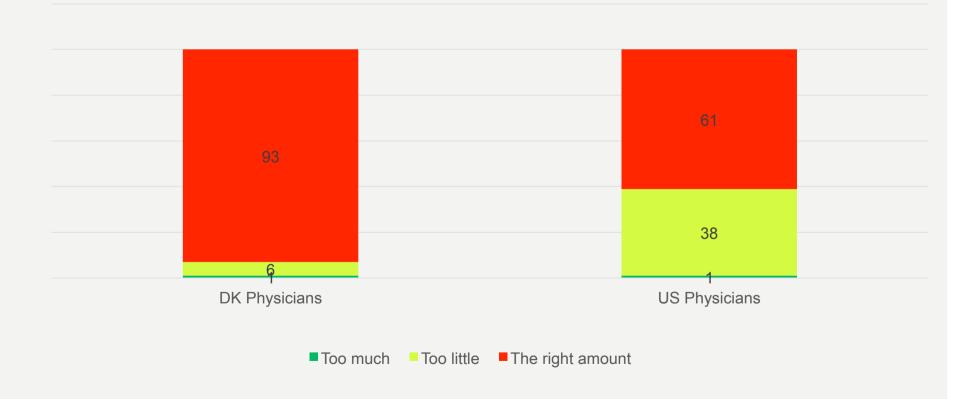






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Overall, do you think the amount of time you spend addressing religious/spiritual issues is: (%)



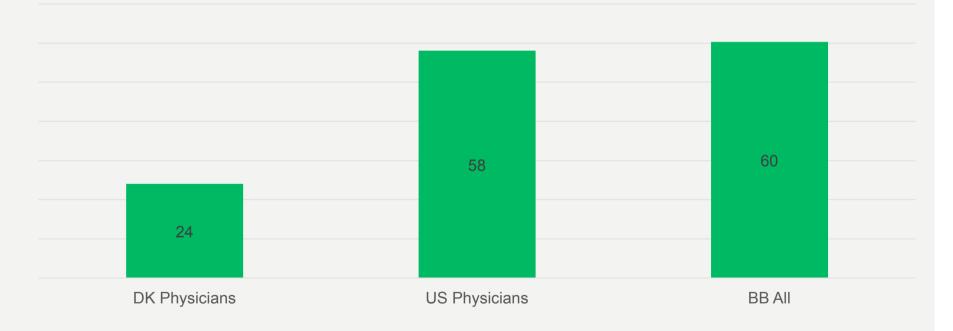








I try hard to carry my religion over into all other dealings in life (%).



■ Definitely or tends to be true of me

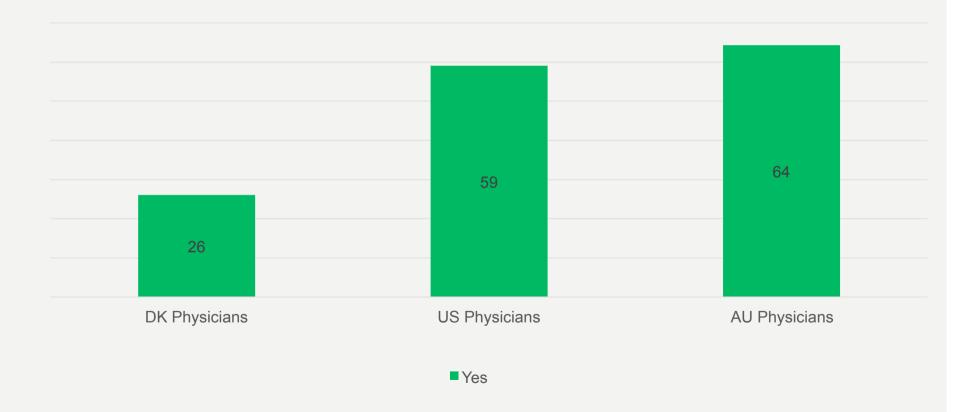








Do you believe there is a life after death? (%).





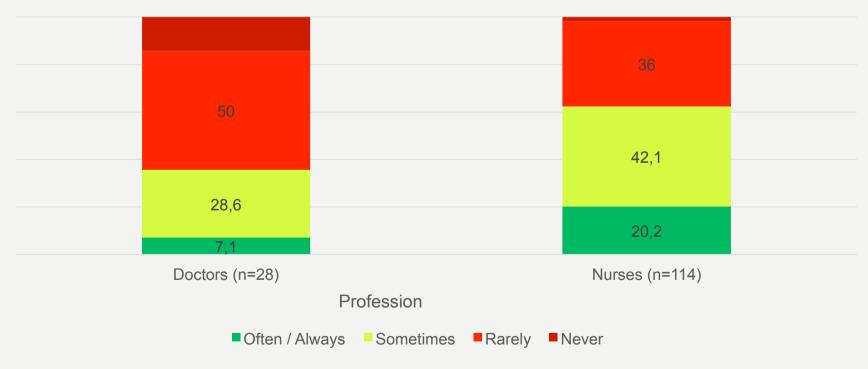
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Perspective

In your experience, how often have your patients mentioned religious/spiritual issues like God, prayer, meditation, the Bible, etc? (%)





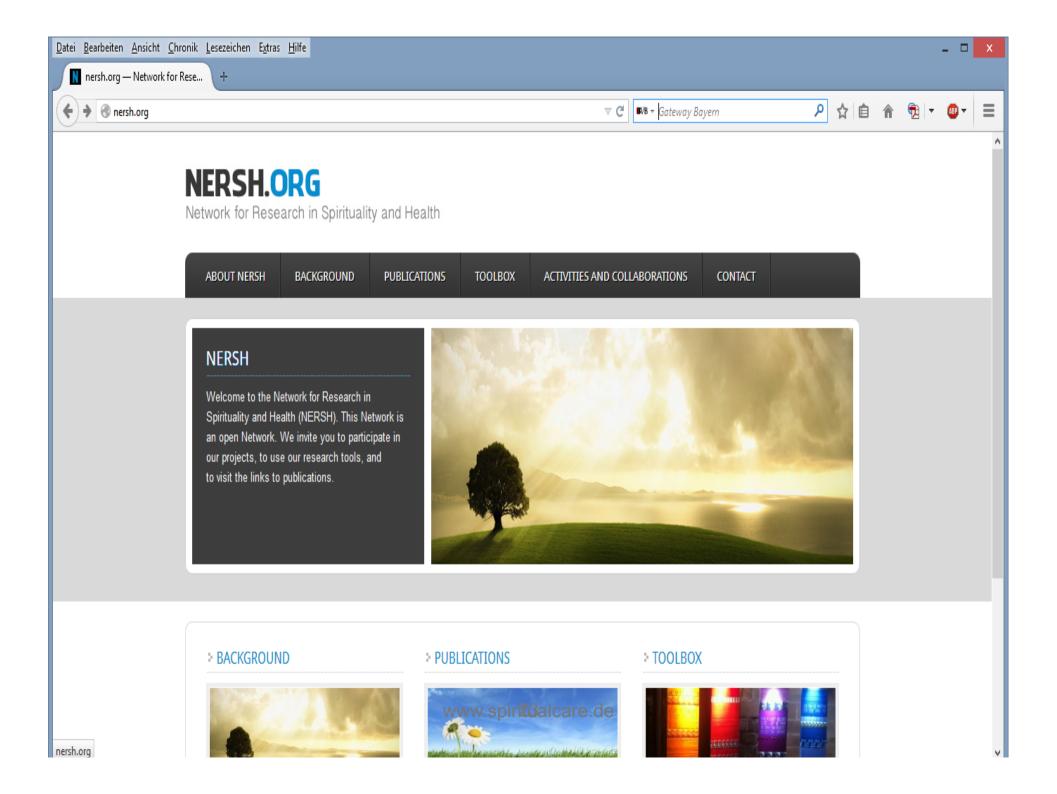






Comparison of Data

- Collaboration with Farr Curlin, Klaus Baumann, Arndt Büssing, Ekchard Frick, myself and others to validate and optimize Farr Curlin's original questionnaire
- Pool / cohort of comparable data organized by the same collaborators in the Network for Research in Spirituality and Health, initiated during fellowship in Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (www.nersh.org)





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Comparison of Data Diversity!

- Austria
- Brazil
- Congo
- Denmark
- Germany
- India
- Indonesia







Comparison of Data

- For more information, see <u>www.nersh.org</u>
- Please join!!!



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Symposium: Doctor's beliefs

- 10 Minutes per presentation
- 15:10-15:30 Discussion