

IALCP/IARP Annual Conference 2018 Handout

Research topics coded to fit into thematic categories established by 2004 life care planning Summit

Implementation and Outcome of Patients

- * Study of the percentage of plans that are implemented
- * Study the relationship of life care plan implementation to quality of life.
- ** Assess patient compliance with a life care plan
- ** Investigate the outcome of children with cerebral palsy as a function of school therapy vs. private care.
- ** Assess the effect of case management on implementation and satisfaction with a life care plan.
- ** Development of a caregiver/family competency (patient understanding) assessment tool.
- ** Explore the relationship between finances/support and return to work?
- ** Impact of case manager, court, and/or family coordination on life care plan implementation.
- ***

Topics relating to specific disabilities or patient characteristics

- * Conduct longitudinal studies (e.g., aging and disability)
- * Identify specific clinical research related to life care plan recommendations (e.g., home supervision/durable medical equipment).
- ** Identify basic standards of care by diagnosis
- ** Explore the relationship between date of injury, referral and discovery deadline (e.g., timeframe).

Topics relating to specific items or content of the plan, as well as provider treatments

- ** Compare life care plan projections, demand, award and actual cost.
- ** Study the effects of client characteristics on the life care planning process.
- ** Identify the effects of advancing technology on life care planning.
- ** Study unpaid caregiver services over time.
- ** Define "least restrictive" research by state; in other words, how it is done and what it is called?
- *** Use of urgent care vs. ER services in a life care plan.

Topics relating to the creation process of plans, legal proceedings, and expert witnessing

- ** Analyze the comprehension and detail of life care planners.
- ** Analyze the frequency of updates (especially pediatric plans).
- ** Assess the cost of care by diagnosis.
- ** Evaluate referral reasons for life care plans.
- ** Impact/importance of family wishes (and cultural beliefs) on the life care planning.
- ***

Topics of the efficacy of plans, including reliability studies, meaning assessing the outcomes of the plans or planning process

- * Analyze life care plan validity and reliability.

- * Assess life expectancy accuracy.
- * Evaluate the cost effectiveness of life care planners.
- * Assess the accuracy and durability of life care plans.
- * Analyze whether cost projections are sufficient.
- ** Explore the relationship between geographic location and cultural diversity of life care planners and clients.
- ** Compare LCP and treatment provider recommendations
- ** Explore the relationship between referral source, purpose of a life care plan, and outcome.
- ** Research the impact of life care plans on case resolution.
- ** Explore the impact of the life care plan to decision making by the trier of fact; in other words, did the life care plan assist in this process?
- *** Impact of the funding source on life care plan totals (e.g., Workers' Compensation vs. "other").
- *** Comparison of plaintiff vs. defense life care plan reviews.
- *** Demographic information on life care plan use (national and international).

Professionalization, including scope of practice, certification, accreditation, ethics and standards of practice

- ** Conduct quality outcome comparisons between certified and non-certified providers.
- ** Specify "Top 5" reasons a certified life care planner vs. non-certified life care planner is/would be disqualified
- ** Analyze adherence to life care planning standards
- ** Identify life care plan report formats (including research).
- ** Explore the relationship/effect of certification on job satisfaction.
- ** Assess the role of the life care planner.
- *** Outcome of mentoring vs. non-mentoring on life care plan quality.
- *** Ethical dilemmas in life care plan.
- *** Clarification of scope of practice.

* - indicates majority view; ** indicates Minority view; *** indicates research ideas that were proposed, and discussed, but did not receive a vote for inclusion in the top five priorities (by any group) These indicate the level of agreement that life care planners view each topic as important to future research. In other words, a single asterisk (*) means most people agree that the topic is important, while three asterisks (***) mean that the topic was suggested and discussed but did not garner enough support to be considered important to the majority of life care planners in attendance.