Call for Papers

Workshop and Journal of Aging & Social Policy Special Issue on Aging and End-of-Life Care: Global Perspectives on Care Provision, Quality, Costs, and Technology

Yale School of Public Health
November 10-11, 2025

Supported by
Yale Institution for Social and Policy Studies

We invite submissions from across public health, medicine, social sciences, and policy for a workshop aimed to examining the final stage of life—a critical yet underexplored focus within global aging research. Scheduled to take place at Yale University from November 10 to 11, 2025, this workshop provides opportunities to discuss papers that may be further developed into a special issue of the *Journal of Aging & Social Policy*. While curative treatments often capture the spotlight, we believe the end-of-life phase demands deeper attention—particularly regarding how social policies and supportive practices can enhance well-being during this universally experienced life stage.

This special issue welcomes empirical and theoretical manuscripts that explore end-of-life trajectories, care settings, expenditures, advance care planning, technological innovations in care, and structural barriers to equitable provision. We are particularly interested in research focusing on the decline in physical, mental, and cognitive functioning, the influence of frailty on care needs, and how different causes of death shape policy relevance. Comparisons of place of death—such as home versus hospice versus hospital—and their associated costs will help inform resource planning and equity considerations across diverse health systems.

Advance care planning is another critical area of interest, especially how cultural, psychological, and legal factors influence individuals' engagement in and completion of advance directives. Studies that explore cross-national or cross-cultural differences—such as among Vietnamese, Filipino, or dementia-related populations—will shed light on how norms and capacity issues impact planning behaviors.

Technology plays a growing yet understudied role in end-of-life care. We seek contributions on how older adults and their caregivers adopt digital health tools, the ways in which these technologies support community-based or home-based palliative care, and what barriers—technological, social, or economic—affect their uptake. Investigations into digital solutions that aim to improve care quality and accessibility are especially encouraged.

Access and equity are fundamental challenges in end-of-life provision. Structural obstacles—such as income disparities, healthcare infrastructure limitations, and cultural marginalization—can significantly influence care quality and decisions. We are soliciting manuscripts that examine how these structural factors shape end-of-life experiences. A

special focus will be on feeding decisions in advanced dementia, using this as a case study to highlight how family communication, socioeconomic status, cultural beliefs, and professional practices intersect in care decision-making.

To participate, please submit a draft manuscript or at least an extended abstract of about 500 words outlining your research objectives, methods, expected findings, and relevance to end-of-life care, by **August 31, 2025 to jaspeol863@gmail.com**. Successful abstracts will be invited for an end-of-life workshop at Yale University on 10th and 11th November 2025. The abstract should include title, authors with affiliations, keywords (4–6), and adhere to APA or journal house style. Please use inclusive, non-ageist language and confirm that ethical approval was obtained where necessary.

If accepted, all presenters will have their ground transportation reimbursed. In addition, 2 nights of lodging for all presenters will be covered according to the Yale ISPS Reimbursement Guidelines. All participants are expected to stay for the entire academic event on November 10-11, 2025.

This special issue is guest-edited by Wei Yang, PhD (King's College London); Xi Chen, PhD (Yale University); Bei Wu, PhD (New York University); and Terri Fried, MD (Yale University). All submissions will undergo a double-blind peer review process aligned with *Journal of Aging & Social Policy* standards.

We anticipate online and print publication in 2026. Through this collection, our aim is to enhance understanding of global end-of-life experiences, inform equitable policy development, and inspire new directions in research and practice. We look forward to your contributions and the opportunity to build a stronger, policy-relevant dialogue on care at life's end.