NH CANCER PLAN COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTATION INITIATIVE

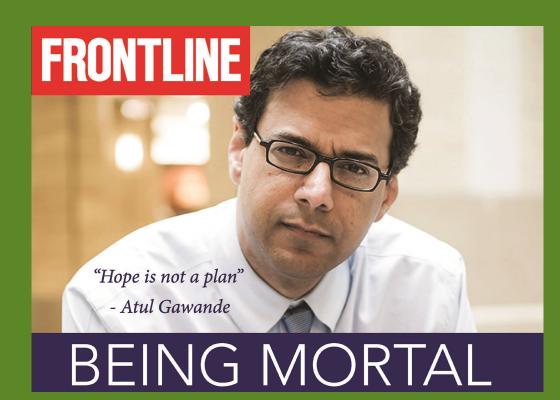
FILM GENERATES DISCUSSION ABOUT PERSONAL END-OF-LIFE PREFERENCES





Hospice Foundation of America coordinated a nationwide public awareness campaign on the importance of talking about end-of-life preferences and goals with loved ones and medical professionals.

Community screenings of the documentary, "Being Mortal", are a way to start the conversation about advanced care planning.



NH Cancer Plan Objective

- Objective 3: Increase access to quality end of life care.
 - Reduce the percentage of late referrals to hospice care.
 - Improve completion of and accessibility to Advanced Care Directives.

Background

- About 33% of the general public have valid advanced directive documents in place.
- Having the conversation before a crisis allows each of us to consider and give voice to our wishes for medical care, if we could not speak for ourselves.
- Having advance care planning documents and conversations before a crisis allows the family and/or caregivers to know what you would want and not have to guess.

Results

- Quality of Life Task Force members partnered with colleagues within their communities to host screenings of the film, "Being Mortal", followed by panel discussions at:
 - Rivier University, Nashua
 - UNH Manchester
 - Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon
 - Portsmouth Hospital.

- Close to 200 people from community and healthcare settings attended.
- Panel discussions included questions about treatment options that might compromise quality of life.
- Participants expressed positive feelings about providers who ask their seriously ill patients, "What gives meaning to your life?".