

# Questionnaire of the Network for Research in Faith and Health (NERSH) Religiosity/Spirituality in Health Professions

By filling out this questionnaire you agree to participate in this scientific survey on the impact of values on the health profession. Participation is voluntary. The questionnaire takes about 12 minutes to complete. Your responses will be confidential and your name will not be matched to your answers. If you are not comfortable answering any particular items, just leave those blank, although it will further the scientific validity if you complete the entire questionnaire.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:21

**Kommentar [1]:** Not in the original RSMPP.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:19

**Kommentar [2]:** In the RSMPP, there's a note that the concepts of spirituality and religiosity in this questionnaire will be considered together, and not used as two distinct concepts.

We are grateful to all those involved in the optimization and further development of Farr Curlin's questionnaire and integration of other tools, leading to the present NERSH questionnaire:

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**SECTION A:  
DEMOGRAPHICS**

1. Age: ..... years

2. Gender:

- [1] Female
- [2] Male

3. Family status:

- [1] Married     [2] Living with a partner
- [3] Divorced     [4] Single     [5] Widowed

4. Employment:

- [1] Part time
- [2] Full time

5. Workplace:

- [1] Hospital     [2] Nursing home     [3] Outpatient clinic etc.
- [4] Home care     [0] Other .....

6. Speciality:

- [1] Internal medicine     [2] Surgery     [3] Orthopedics
- [4] Psychiatry (Psycho Therapy)     [5] Neurology
- [6] Pediatrics     [7] Geriatrics     [8] Anesthesia
- [9] Obstetrics     [10] Intensive Care
- [8] Other (specify) .....

7. Profession:

- [1] Medicine     [2] Nursing     [3] Chaplaincy
- [4] Psychosocial services     [5] other .....

8. Employed since: ..... years

9. Religious affiliation:

- [1] None     [2] Roman Catholic     [3] Orthodox     [4] Protestant
- [5] Muslim     [6] Jewish     [7] Buddhist     [8] Hindu     [9] No religious affiliation
- [10] Other (specify) .....

10. Please mark on the scale to what extend your (physical or psychological) health is impaired at the moment (0=not at all, 100=strongly).

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Niels Christian 26/4/2016 12:11  
**Kommentar [3]:** Demographics moved from Section C to Section A

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:19  
**Kommentar [4]:** NERSH contains questions on more general demographic information such as age and gender, whereas questions in the RSMPP are more focused on the clinical practice ("how many hours a week do you spend with outpatients? What kind of practice is yours?"). RSMPP also asks about race and whether the physician is satisfied with his/her work. Further, RSMPP contains an empty box (Q48) in which people can write whatever they feel like, in connection to religiosity, spirituality, health and medicine.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:19  
**Kommentar [5]:** 1 through 8 aren't included in the RSMPP – but similar demographics appear at the end of the RSMPP

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:19  
**Kommentar [6]:** Found in section B in the RSMPP, Q30, equivalent to section C in NERSH. Furthermore, the RSMPP asks whether the physician's religious affiliation is the same as in his childhood (Q31). That question isn't included in NERSH.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:19  
**Kommentar [7]:** Relates to Q34 in RSMPP but not entirely the same. RSMPP asks: „In general, would you say your own health is:“ (Q34 in RSMPP)

**SECTION B:**  
**YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON RELIGIOSITY/SPIRITUALITY AND HEALTH**

**11. Overall, how much influence do you think religion/spirituality has on patients' health?**

- Very much <sup>[1]</sup>    Much <sup>[2]</sup>    Some <sup>[3]</sup>    A little <sup>[4]</sup>    Very little to none <sup>[5]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:19

**Kommentar [8]:** Q1 in RSMPP.

**12. Overall, how much influence do you think religion/spirituality has on patients' healing process?**

- Very much <sup>[1]</sup>    Much <sup>[2]</sup>    Some <sup>[3]</sup>    A little <sup>[4]</sup>    Very little to none <sup>[5]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:19

**Kommentar [9]:** Not in the RSMPP but quite similar to Q11 in NERSH.

**13. Is the influence of religion/spirituality on the following illnesses generally positive or negative?**

	Generally positive	Generally negative	Both positive and negative	No influence
a) Psychiatric illnesses	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>
b) Cancer	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>
c) Chronic pain diseases	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>
d) Cardiovascular diseases	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>
e) Other:  .....	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:19

**Kommentar [10]:** In the RSMPP, the influence of R and S is only considered on general health, and not on specific diseases as it is in NERSH. Q2 in RSMPP.

**14. In general, is it appropriate for a physician to discuss religious/spiritual issues when a patient/relative brings them up?**

- Always appropriate <sup>[1]</sup>    Usually appropriate <sup>[2]</sup>  
 Usually *in*appropriate <sup>[3]</sup>    Always *in*appropriate <sup>[4]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:21

**Kommentar [11]:** RSMPP contains a question that asks if physician thinks that God intervenes in patients' health (Q3 in RSMPP). No similar one in NERSH.

**15. In general, is it appropriate for a physician to inquire about a patient's/relative's religion/spirituality?**

- Always appropriate <sup>[1]</sup>    Usually appropriate <sup>[2]</sup>  
 Usually *in*appropriate <sup>[3]</sup>    Always *in*appropriate <sup>[4]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:19

**Kommentar [12]:** RSMPP only asks if it's appropriate for a physician to discuss religious/spiritual issues if the patient brings them up. Doesn't mention relatives. The same applies to 14 through 19; 21; 22 etc, and throughout the rest of the questionnaire. Q16 in RSMPP.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [13]:** Q5 in RSMPP.

**16. When, if ever, is it appropriate for a physician to talk about his or her own religious beliefs or experiences with a patient/relative?**

- Never <sup>[1]</sup>  
 Only when the patient/relative asks <sup>[2]</sup>  
 Whenever the physician senses it would be appropriate <sup>[3]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [14]:** Q6 in RSMPP

**17. When, if ever, is it appropriate for a physician to pray with a patient/relative?**

- Never <sup>[1]</sup>  
 Only when the patient/relative asks <sup>[2]</sup>  
 Whenever the physician senses it would be appropriate <sup>[3]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [15]:** Q7 in RSMPP.

**18. How comfortable would you feel discussing a patient's religious / spiritual concerns, if the patient / relative brought them up?**

- Very comfortable <sup>[1]</sup>       Comfortable <sup>[2]</sup>  
 Uncomfortable <sup>[3]</sup>       Very uncomfortable <sup>[4]</sup>

**19. Do you ever inquire about patients'/relative's religious/spiritual issues?**

- No <sup>[2]</sup>    Yes <sup>[1]</sup>

**19.1 If YES, how often do you inquire?**

- Rarely <sup>[1]</sup>    Sometimes <sup>[2]</sup>    Often <sup>[3]</sup>    Always <sup>[4]</sup>

**19.2 If YES, how often have patients/relatives seemed uncomfortable when you inquire?**

- Never <sup>[1]</sup>    Rarely <sup>[2]</sup>    Sometimes <sup>[3]</sup>    Often <sup>[4]</sup>    Always <sup>[5]</sup>

**20. Experiences with religiosity/spirituality in the clinical practice: How are your experiences considering the following statements?**

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
a) Patients/relatives mention religious/spiritual issues like God, prayer, meditation, the Bible, the Koran etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[5]</sup>
b) Religiosity/spirituality in general influences the health of patients/relatives positively.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[5]</sup>
c) Religiosity/spirituality helps patients to cope with and endure illness and suffering.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[5]</sup>
d) Religiosity/spirituality leads patients to refuse, delay, or stop medically indicated therapy.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[5]</sup>
e) Patients/relatives receive emotional or practical support from their religious community.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[5]</sup>
f) Religiosity/spirituality gives patients a positive, hopeful state of mind?	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[5]</sup>
g) Religiosity/spirituality helps to prevent severe consequences of disease, i.e. suicide	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[5]</sup>
h) Patients/relatives use religion/ spirituality as a reason to avoid taking responsibility for their own health?	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[5]</sup>
i) Religiosity/spirituality is strengthened or deepened through the experience of illness?	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[5]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [16]:** Q8 in RSMPP.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [17]:** After this questions, in the RSMPP the physician is asked if he enjoys talking about R and S issues (Q9). Not found in NERSH.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [18]:** Placed earlier in NERSH compared to RSMPP. Q13 in RSMPP.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [19]:** All questions in the table formulated a bit differently from the RSMPP. Furthermore, in RSMPP this one is split up in two questions (Q10 and 11 in RSMPP).

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [20]:** Not in the RSMPP. Sounds a lot like Q12 and 13 in present study (NERSH).

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:23

**Kommentar [21]:** Sounds a bit like item E in Q11 in the RSMPP, but not entirely the same. Otherwise not in the RSMPP. Adapted from Freiburg Study.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [22]:** Found in the RSMPP as a separate question (Q12).

**21. In the following clinical situations, how often do you inquire about religious/spiritual issues?**

When a patient/relative ... ▼	... you inquire about religious/spiritual issues: ▼				
	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
a) presents with a minor illness or injury,	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]
b) faces a frightening diagnosis or crisis,	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]
c) faces the end of life,	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]
d) suffers from anxiety or depression,	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]
e) comes for a medical history and physical examination,	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]
f) faces an ethical quandary,	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

Kommentar [23]: Q14 in RSMPP.

**22. When religious/spiritual issues come up in discussions with patients/relatives, how often do you respond in the following ways?**

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
a) I listen carefully and empathetically.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]
b) I try to change the subject in a tactful way.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]
c) I encourage patients/relatives in their own religious/spiritual beliefs and practices.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]
d) I respectfully share my own religious ideas and experiences.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]
e) I pray with the patient/relative.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]	<input type="checkbox"/> [5]


Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

Kommentar [24]: Formulation in RSMPP: „comes for a history and physical“ (Q14, item e)

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

Kommentar [25]: Q15 in RSMPP.

23. A patient presents to you with continued deep grieving two months after the death of his wife. If you were to refer the patient, to which of the following would you prefer to refer first?

- A health-care chaplain <sup>[1]</sup>  
 A clergy member or other religious counselor <sup>[2]</sup>  
 A psychiatrist or psychologist <sup>[3]</sup>  
 Other (specify): <sup>[4]</sup>  .....

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

Kommentar [26]: Q16 in RSMPP

24. In your experience with chaplains and other pastoral care professionals, have you been:

- Very satisfied <sup>[1]</sup>     Satisfied <sup>[2]</sup>     Dissatisfied <sup>[3]</sup>  
 Very dissatisfied <sup>[4]</sup>     I have had no prior experience <sup>[5]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20


Kommentar [27]: Q17 in RSMPP

25. Does anything discourage you from discussing religion/spirituality with patients/patients' relatives?

- No <sup>[2]</sup>     Yes <sup>[1]</sup>

25.1 If YES, which of the following reasons discourage you?

(Check all that apply)

- General discomfort discussing religious matters <sup>[1]</sup>  
 Insufficient knowledge/training <sup>[2]</sup>  
 Insufficient time <sup>[3]</sup>  
 Concern about offending patients/relatives <sup>[4]</sup>  
 Concern that my colleagues will disapprove <sup>[5]</sup>  
 Professional neutrality <sup>[6]</sup>  
 Not my task <sup>[7]</sup>  
 I refuse to speak of these matters in my work <sup>[8]</sup>  
 Other (specify): <sup>[9]</sup>  .....

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

Kommentar [28]: Q18 in RSMPP

26. Overall, do you think the amount of time you spend addressing religious/spiritual issues is:

- Too much <sup>[1]</sup>     Too little <sup>[2]</sup>     The right amount <sup>[3]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:23

Kommentar [29]: These three answers added from Freiburg Study.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

Kommentar [30]: Q19 in RSMPP.

27. Have you had any formal training regarding religion/spirituality in medicine?

- No <sup>[2]</sup>     Yes <sup>[1]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20


Kommentar [31]: Q20 in RSMPP.

27.1 If YES, was your preparation from any of the following resources???

(Check all that apply)

Niels Christian 26/4/2016 11:45

Slettet: was it in any of the following

- Course during medical school, nursing school and/or university <sup>[1]</sup>
- Book or CME literature <sup>[2]</sup>
- Grand rounds or other conference <sup>[3]</sup>
- Training from your religious tradition <sup>[4]</sup>
- Other (specify): <sup>[5]</sup>  .....

27.2. Would you like more training regarding religion/spirituality in medicine?

- No <sup>[2]</sup>  Yes <sup>[1]</sup>

27.3. Would you like more training regarding religion/spirituality in medicine?

- No <sup>[2]</sup>  Yes <sup>[1]</sup>

**28. The following questions deal with controversial issues in medicine.**

Please note if you object to any of the following medical practices, and if so, whether your objection is for religious reasons, reasons unrelated to religion, or both.

	I have no objection	I have religious objections	I have other, not primarily religious objections	I have general objections
a) Physician-assisted suicide	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>
b) Withdrawal of artificial life support	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>
c) Sedation to the point of unconsciousness in dying patients	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>
d) Withdrawal of artificial life support	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>
e) Abortion for congenital abnormalities	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>
f) Abortion for failed contraception	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>
g) Abortion in advanced stages of pregnancy for the purpose of protecting the mother	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[1]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[2]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[3]</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sup>[4]</sup>

Niels Christian 26/4/2016 11:46

**Kommentar [32]:** Added during NGT

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [33]:** Q21 in RSMPP.

Niels Christian 26/4/2016 11:44

**Kommentar [34]:** From 2006 survey "Religious Commitments and clinical practices: a national physician survey"

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [35]:** Possible answers are slightly different from RSMPP (Q21 in RSMPP).

Tobias Opsahl 3/5/2016 12:28

**Kommentar [36]:** B and D are the same.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:24

**Kommentar [37]:** Sound like a reformulation of the RSMPP item (Q 21, item F), and has a slightly different meaning from the RSMPP. In RSMPP, it asks if the phycisist objects to birth control to teenagers, whereas NERSH asks if phycisist objects to abortion for the purpose of protecting the mother, without specifying age. Updated.

29. Please imagine the following situation: A patient requests a legal medical procedure (e.g. an abortion), but the patient's treating physician objects to the procedure for religious or moral reasons:

	Yes	No	Undecided
a) Does the physician have an obligation to present all possible options to the patient, including information about obtaining the requested procedure?	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]
b) Does the physician have an obligation to refer the patient to someone who does not object to the requested procedure?	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]
c) Would it be ethical for the physician to plainly describe to the patient why he or she objects to the requested procedure?	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly
a) The value of a patient's life is not tied to the patient's quality of life	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
b) Physicians should strongly weigh patient <u>quality of life</u> when making recommendations about instituting or withdrawing life-sustaining treatments	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [38]:** Q22 in RSMPP.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:24

**Kommentar [39]:** This text is added to NERSH. Not found in RSMPP. Added from other Curtin questionnaires

Niels Christian 26/4/2016 11:43

**Kommentar [40]:** Example added

Niels Christian 26/4/2016 11:41

**Kommentar [41]:** From 2012 survey "Religion and care of patients with advanced illness and at the end of life: a national physician study"



**SECTION C:**  
**YOUR RELIGIOUS/SPIRITUAL CHARACTERISTICS**

**Note: Whether you consider yourself religious, spiritual, or neither,  
your perspective is important.**

**30. Regardless of your attitude toward particular religious beliefs, to what extent do you consider yourself a spiritual person? Would you say you are ...**

- Very spiritual <sup>[1]</sup>       Moderately spiritual <sup>[2]</sup>  
 Slightly spiritual <sup>[3]</sup>       Not spiritual at all <sup>[4]</sup>

**31. Regardless of whether you belong to a particular religious group or attend religious services, to what extent do you consider yourself a religious person? Would you say you are...**

- Very religious <sup>[1]</sup>       Moderately religious <sup>[2]</sup>  
 Slightly religious <sup>[3]</sup>       Not religious at all <sup>[4]</sup>

**32. Do you believe in God or a higher power?**

- Yes <sup>[1]</sup>       No <sup>[2]</sup>       Undecided <sup>[3]</sup>

**33. Do you believe there is a life after death?**

- Yes <sup>[1]</sup>       No <sup>[2]</sup>       Undecided <sup>[3]</sup>

**34. Think about how you try to understand and deal with major problems in your life: Do you look to God (or a higher power) for strength, support and guidance?**

- Yes <sup>[1]</sup>       No <sup>[2]</sup>       Undecided <sup>[3]</sup>

**35. Did you ever have a religious or spiritual experience that changed your life?**

- No <sup>[2]</sup>       Yes <sup>[1]</sup>

**35.1 If YES, did the experience occur within the context of practicing medicine?**

- No <sup>[2]</sup>       Yes <sup>[1]</sup>

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [42]:** Q24 in RSMPP.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [43]:** This first sentence isn't included in RSMPP. The same applies to Q31.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [44]:** Q25 in RSMPP. Compared to RSMPP, 30 and 31 have changed places.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [45]:** Q25 in RSMPP.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [46]:** Higher power added to NERSH. Not found in RSMPP.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [47]:** Q26 in RSMPP.

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [48]:** RSMPP has four possible answers ("a great deal", "Quite a bit", "Somewhat", "Not at all") compared to three in NERSH (Q27b in RSMPP).

In addition to this question, the RSMPP contains a question on whether the physician makes sense of the situation and decide what to do without relying on God (Q27 in RSMPP).

Tobias Opsahl 9/5/2016 12:20

**Kommentar [49]:** Q28 in RSMPP.

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**Kommentar [50]:** Q28a in RSMPP.

Please answer the following questions about your religious beliefs and/or involvement.

**36. How often do you attend church or other religious meetings?**

- more than once a week <sup>[6]</sup>     once a week <sup>[5]</sup>  
 a few times a month <sup>[4]</sup>     a few times a year <sup>[3]</sup>  
 once a year or less <sup>[2]</sup>     never <sup>[1]</sup>

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**Kommentar [51]:** More possible answers in RSMPP. Q29 in RSMPP.

**37. How often do you spend time in private religious activities, such as prayer, meditation or Bible study?**

- more than once a day <sup>[6]</sup>     daily <sup>[5]</sup>  
 a few times a week <sup>[4]</sup>     once a week <sup>[3]</sup>  
 a few times a month <sup>[2]</sup>     rarely or never <sup>[1]</sup>

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**Kommentar [52]:** Not in RSMPP.

**38. In my life, I experience the presence of the Divine (i.e. God).**

- definitely true of me <sup>[4]</sup>     tends to be true of me <sup>[3]</sup>  
 tends *not* to be true of me <sup>[2]</sup>     definitely *not* true of me <sup>[1]</sup>

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**Kommentar [53]:** Not in RSMPP.

**39. My religious beliefs are what really lie behind my whole approach to life.**

- definitely true of me <sup>[4]</sup>     tends to be true of me <sup>[3]</sup>  
 tends *not* to be true of me <sup>[2]</sup>     definitely *not* true of me <sup>[1]</sup>

**40. I try hard to carry my religion over into all other dealings in life.**

- definitely true of me <sup>[4]</sup>     tends to be true of me <sup>[3]</sup>  
 tends *not* to be true of me <sup>[2]</sup>     definitely *not* true of me <sup>[1]</sup>

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**Kommentar [54]:** Both questions (39 and 40) are included in the table to Q32 in the RSMPP (equivalent to Q42 in NERSH).

41.	We know that there are very different emotions, attitudes and opinions associated with spirituality. Please read the following statements and indicate how true each one is for you and your situation by circling one number per line.	Does not apply at all	Does not really apply	I can't decide (neither yes or no)	Applies quite well	Definitely applies
S3	I trust in God (or Allah, or JHW, respectively) and turn to Him.	0	1	2	3	4
S4	I am feeling guided and secure.	0	1	2	3	4
S5	I am convinced that soul has its origin in a higher dimension.	0	1	2	3	4
S6	I am convinced that there are higher forces and beings.	0	1	2	3	4
S8	I am convinced that people (or their soul) are reborn	0	1	2	3	4
S10	I try to develop wisdom.	0	1	2	3	4
S11	I strive for insight and truth.	0	1	2	3	4
S12	I strive for beauty and goodness.	0	1	2	3	4
S13	I strive for a more comprehensive consciousness/ awareness.	0	1	2	3	4
S14	My life is a search and ask for answers.	0	1	2	3	4
S15	I am searching for deep insight in context of life.	0	1	2	3	4
S16	I attempt to achieve openness of spirit.	0	1	2	3	4
S19	I am convinced that people are spiritual beings.	0	1	2	3	4
S21	I deal consciously with myself.	0	1	2	3	4
S22	I deal consciously with others.	0	1	2	3	4
S23	I deal consciously with my environment.	0	1	2	3	4
S25*	I work voluntary for others.	0	1	2	3	4
S26	I attempt to practice generosity.	0	1	2	3	4
S28	I attempt to develop compassion.	0	1	2	3	4
S33	I have a spiritual orientation in life.	0	1	2	3	4
S34*	I am meditating.	0	1	2	3	4
S35	I pray for others.	0	1	2	3	4
S36	I pray for myself and my concerns.	0	1	2	3	4
S37	I read religious or spiritual books.	0	1	2	3	4
S38	I follow certain rituals or actions.	0	1	2	3	4
S39	I attempt to give expression to the Divine in creation.	0	1	2	3	4
S40	I do not feel alone, even if no one is with me.	0	1	2	3	4

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Kommentar [55]: Not in RSMPP.

**42. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
a) I feel a deep sense of responsibility for reducing pain and suffering in the world.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
b) The family in which I was raised emphasized the importance of serving those with fewer resources.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
c) For me, the practice of medicine is a calling.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
d) My religious beliefs influence my practice of medicine.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
e) I find it challenging to remain faithful to my religion in my work as a physician.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
e) My experiences as a physician have caused me to question my religious beliefs.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]

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Kommentar [56]: Q32 in RSMPP.

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Kommentar [57]: Two items named e).

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Kommentar [58]: 43 through 45 aren't included in the RSMPP.

**43. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
a) There is a God who concerns Himself with every human being personally.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
b) There is little that people can do to change the course of their lives.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
c) To me, life is meaningful only because God exists.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
d) In my opinion, life does not serve any purpose.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
e) Life is only meaningful if you provide the meaning yourself.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]
f) I have my own way of connecting with God without churches or religious services.	<input type="checkbox"/> [1]	<input type="checkbox"/> [2]	<input type="checkbox"/> [3]	<input type="checkbox"/> [4]

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44. Below you will find statements given by other people. Please read the statements carefully and then indicate how true each is for you and your <u>current situation</u> by circling one number per line.		Does not apply at all	Does not really apply	I don't know (neither yes or no)	Applies quite well	Definitely applies
F4.2	My spirituality/religiosity helps me to have a deeper connection to my neighbors and the world around me.	0	1	2	3	4
F4.3	My spirituality/religiosity helps me to be aware of how I manage my life.	0	1	2	3	4
F4.4	My spirituality/religiosity helps me to cope better with illness (e.g. in my work with patients) or arising problems.	0	1	2	3	4
F4.7	Being engaged in religion or spirituality helps me to maintain and regain mental and physical health.	0	1	2	3	4
F5.1	Spiritual/religious activity generally brings me a feeling of contentment and inner peace.	0	1	2	3	4
F5.2	In everyday life, my spirituality/religiosity promotes my inner strength.	0	1	2	3	4

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45. The following questions deal with your <b>satisfaction</b> with various areas of your life. Please choose one answer for each question that you find most appropriate for your situation. If a question does not reflect your current situation, please simply leave it blank. <b>I would describe my satisfaction with...:</b>		Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Mostly dissatisfied	Mixed feelings	Mostly satisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
H1	... my family life ...	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
H2	... my friendships ...	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
H3	... workplace ...	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
H4	... myself ...	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
H5	... where I live ...	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
H6	... overall life ...	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
H7	... my financial situation ...	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
H8	... my future prospects ...	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
G1	... my health...	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
G3	... my ability to cope with everyday life ...	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
G4	... my fitness and vitality ....	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

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Thank you for your participation!

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**Kommentar [59]:** Question 33 from the RSMPP article is related to this question. Q33 in the RSMPP asks whether the respondent in general is happy or unhappy. Q45 from NERSH seems more nuanced and thorough. Otherwise not found in the RSMPP.