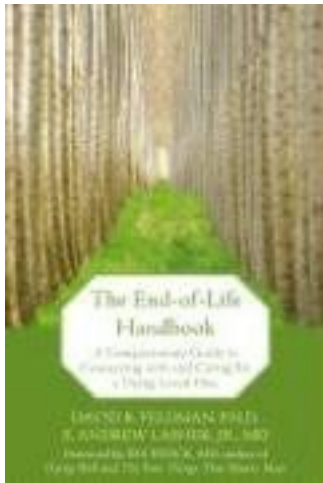


The End-of-Life Handbook



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The miracles of modern medicine allow us to live longer with serious medical conditions than ever before. Following a terminal diagnosis, patients may live for months or years before passing away. A side effect of this reality is that patients and their families are facing unprecedented choices about how and where the death will occur. They often must choose between painful treatments that may extend life and care focused on comfort that may hasten death. They confront endless medical opinions and receive little guidance about how to decide between them. This practical yet compassionate guide offers the families of individuals nearing the end of life caring, compassionate, and practical advice on dealing with the process of a loved one's death. In the first section, the book offers practical advice, clearly explaining medical information, treatment options and practical decisions that must be made in many terminal-care situations. Then the book stresses the opportunities for hope, personal control, and loving family connection that occur during periods of palliative care.

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