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End-of-Life Algorithms

The dean of Stanford medical school suggests a new algorithm could predict which patients are the most likely to die in the next 3 to 12 months, allowing doctors to answer the "how long do I have left" question. He understands this makes people uneasy but claims the algorithms won't deny or discourage care.

Commenters strongly disagree. One woman says her health plan today limits her doctors and hospitals and prescription refills according to algorithms. One man said it sounds like automated "Death Panels." But one writer *wants* the algorithms used to limit access to care. Another says he already has a list of things Medicare refuses to pay for simply because his wife is over 75.

"How Long Do I Have Left?' AI Can Help Answer That Question," Lloyd Minor, MD, The Wall Street Journal, April 29, 2018: https://blogs.wsj.com/experts/2018/04/29/how-long-do-i-have-left-ai-can-help-answer-that-question/?mod=article_inline#comments_sector

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens' Council for Health Freedom.

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