

Argument Map Final Draft

“End-of-Life Care Needs Concrete Reforms, Not Sweeping Rhetoric.”

Scholarly Source?	Yes: _____ No: <u> X </u>
Citation:	The Boston Globe. “End-of-Life Care Needs Concrete Reforms, Not Sweeping Rhetoric.” September 28, 2014. The Boston Globe.
Standpoint:	A newspaper’s editorial staff, newspapers today are more and more “for-profit”—we’re not sure what their position on the issue is (although we might do a bit of research to see The Boston Globe’s stance on similar issues)
Conclusion:	End of life care needs to be reformed and giving patients and their families more choice may be the best way to do that
Values/Assumptions:	People want to die with dignity
Counter-Argument:	People worry about bean counters (“death panels”); ingrained health practices seem to frustrate attempts to reform them
Claim 1:	We need to allow patients to have more choice and help them avoid hospitalization at the end of their lives
Supporting Evidence:	There needs to be a clear shift away from fee-for service medicine and more talking with patients
Values/Assumptions:	Interpersonal interaction between patients and their doctors is important
Counter-Argument:	This will take time and face resistance from powerful groups
Claim 2:	We need to identify immediate reforms to end-of-life care
Supporting Evidence:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One way is for insurers to provide financial incentives for services like home health care (such services would decrease the need for emergency/acute care at the end of life) 2. Provide physicians with a financial incentive to provide end-of-life counseling 3. Create and implement an end-of-life care program where doctors can document their patient’s wishes (such a program was adopted by $\frac{3}{4}$ of the health care providers in Massachusetts)
Values/Assumptions:	People would use and would prefer home health care
Counter-Argument:	Redesigning Medicare, etc. would require new legislation; how quickly some of these changes would impact end-of-life care are unknown