Appendix 1. Study Questionnaire

1: A patient has just received a diagnosis of cancer. In your opinion, who should be involved in the choice of treatment? Please check as many options as you like.

1) The physician
2) The patient
3) The relatives
4) Others members of the health-care team (nutritionist, psychologist, physiotherapist, others)
5) Everybody

2: A patient has just received a diagnosis of cancer. The physician discusses the therapeutic options and the possible side effects of the treatment with him or her. In your opinion, which therapeutic modality should be chosen?

1) The type that prolongs survival, independent of quality of life
2) The type that provides a reasonably long life, although not necessarily the longest, with minimal side effects and little impact on quality of life
3) The type that provides maximal quality of life, although survival may be shorter
4) No treatment should be given to avoid the risk of side effects or a negative impact on quality of life
5) I do not know or prefer not to comment

3: A patient is diagnosed with a highly malignant cancer. Imagine that there are three therapies available for this type of cancer, termed X, Y and Z. Treatment X is quite toxic for the organism and the patient be hospitalized for approximately one month until his or her body recovers. Visits will be restricted due to the patient's low resistance. There is a high chance of cure. Treatment Y can produce nausea, vomiting, fever and tremors but is less toxic than treatment X. This treatment should be administered at the hospital once per week over a year's time, with no need for hospitalization. This drug does not cure the disease but can prolong survival by several months. Treatment Z consists of an intravenous medication that must be administered once per month at the hospital. The patient needs to remain in the hospital for 30 minutes after each application. The most common side effects are mild, but this treatment is most likely less effective than treatment Y.

3a): Considering these three treatments, in your opinion, which one would be the most suitable if the patient were a five-year-old child? Please justify your answer below.
1) Treatment X   2) Treatment Y   3) Treatment Z

3b): What if the patient were a 16-year-old adolescent? Please justify your answer below.
1) Treatment X   2) Treatment Y   3) Treatment Z

3c): What if the patient were a 50-year-old adult? Please justify your answer below.
1) Treatment X   2) Treatment Y   3) Treatment Z

3d): What if the patient were a 70-year-old patient? Please justify your answer below.
1) Treatment X   2) Treatment Y   3) Treatment Z

4: The following table represents six fictitious scenarios. In each one, there is a value for survival time and another for quality of life. Both for survival time and for quality of life, the value zero represents the worst possible situation (in each case, an immediate risk of death and major suffering from the disease), whereas a value of 10 represents the best possible situation (an expectation of a life of many years and no suffering caused by the disease). The other numbers represent intermediate situations.

SCENARIOS LIFESPAN QUALITY OF LIFE

Hypothetical scenarios	Longevity	Quality of Life
A	10	0
B	8	2
C	6	4
D	4	6
E	2	8
F	0	10

Faced with a diagnosis of cancer, if you could choose only one of the scenarios above, which would you choose? Take into account that, for this hypothetical question, we are considering that you would have to choose either the length OR the quality of life. In practice, what the doctor tries to do for the patient is to increase both the lifespan and quality of life. However, imagine that this would not be possible and that you actually would have to choose what you consider to be more important.

1) Scenario A
2) Scenario B
3) Scenario C
4) Scenario D
5) Scenario E
6) Scenario F