



John Richards Initiative

Research into aged care in rural communities

Research reasoning

Life Review and Advance Care Planning in Rural Communities

Introduction

- Ageing nations have growing needs for end of life care –
- What does this mean?

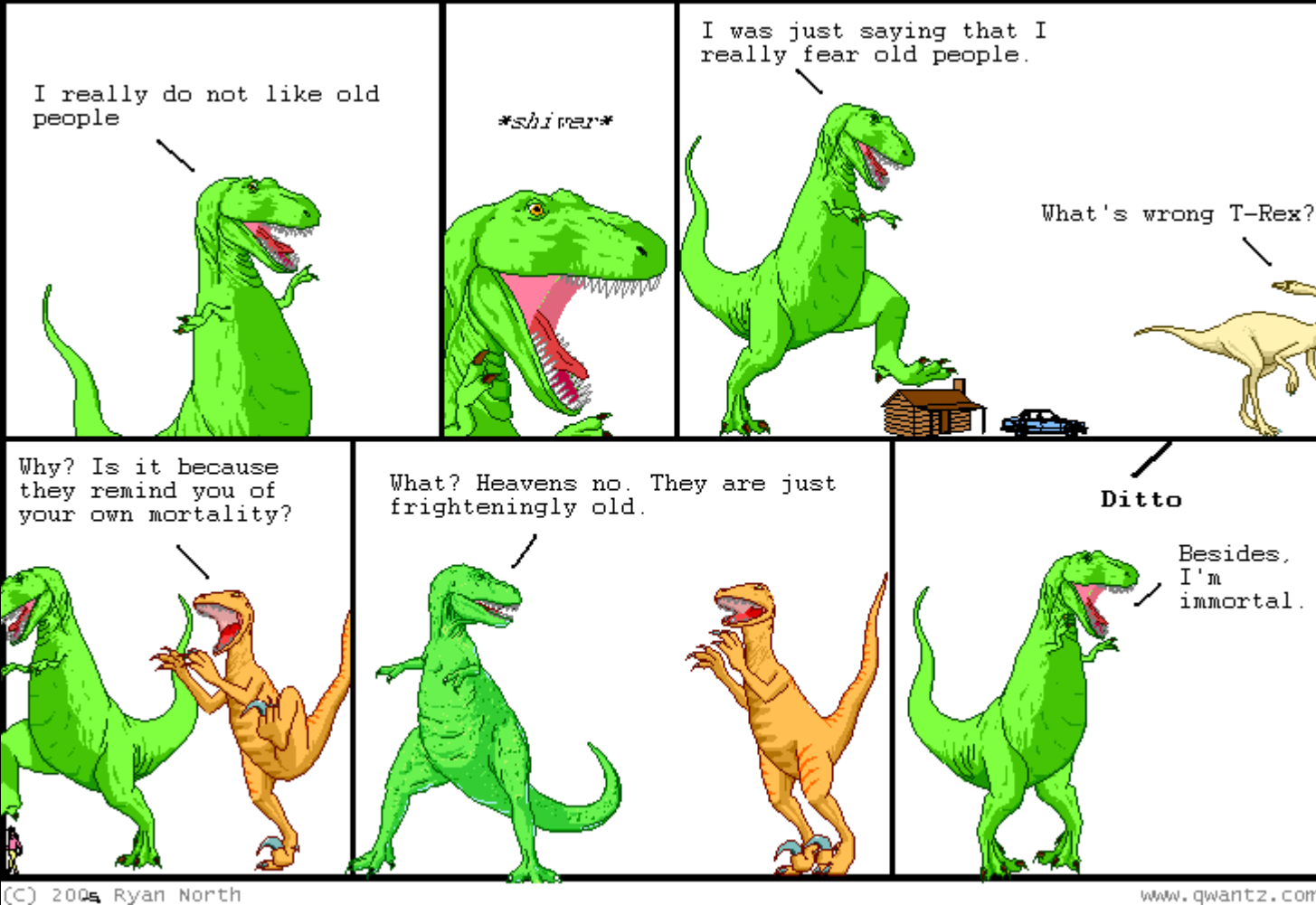


*The longest life may not be
the best life — Chapman (2005)*

We are all going to die !!!!!

Advanced age is easily the
strongest predictor of death

Nearly half of all deaths in
Australia occur in hospital





Rural communities have a high percentage of the very elderly.

Challenges exist for each community

Does where we live influence how we think about and plan for our death?



Rationale for Research

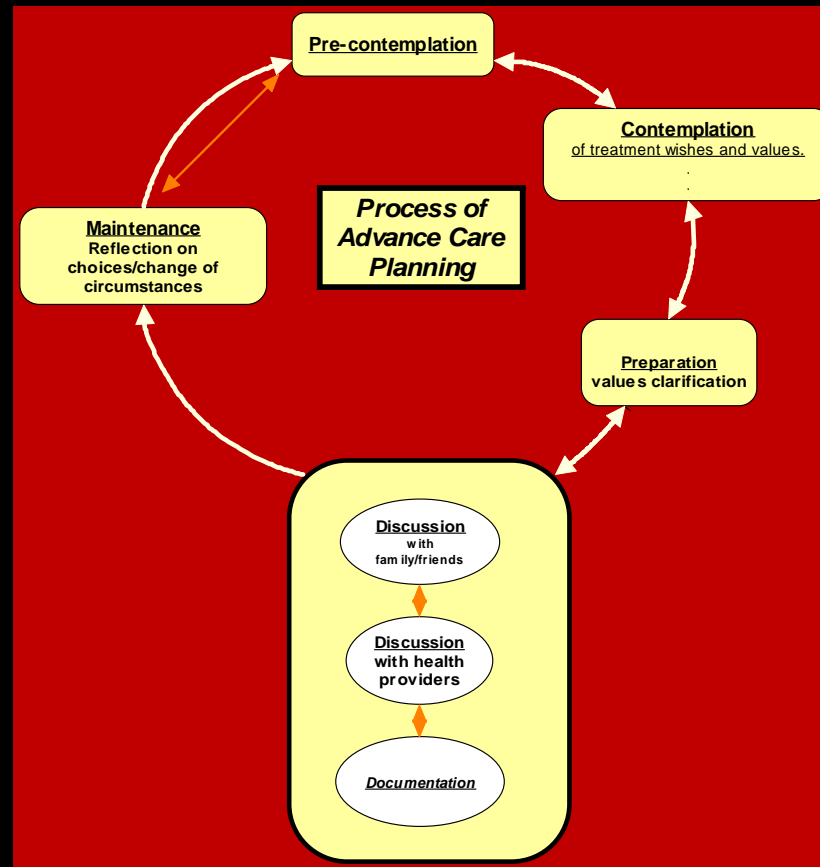
- Lack of research with regards to desires in relation to place of death in Australia
- Uptake of ACP slow at present
- Therapeutic benefit of Life Review
- Existing use of volunteers in palliative care and rural services

HENCE.....

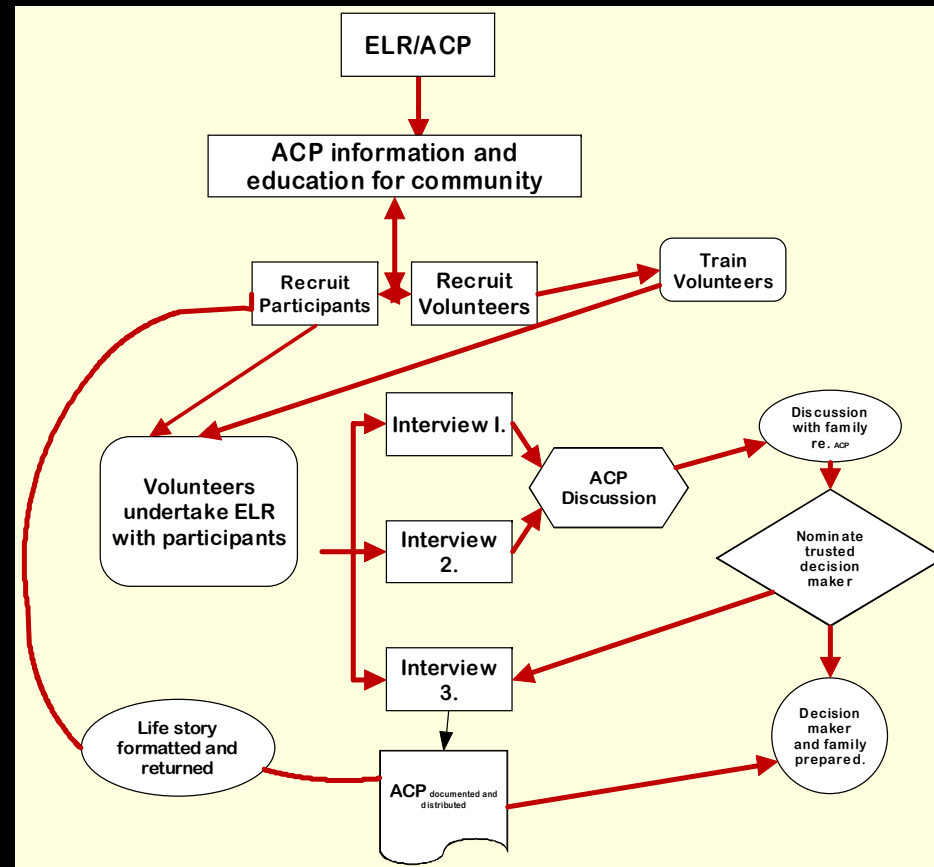
- Linking Life Review to Advance Care Planning in a rural community context using volunteers



The Process Of ACP



Process of Evaluative Life Review/Advance Care Plan



'.....a person's past is protected from the ravages of illness.....a life story that ends well casts a positive light on all that has preceded'.

Ira Brock, *The nature of suffering and the nature of Opportunity at the End of Life* 1996