Appendix to "Difficulty in having 'do not attempt cardiopulmonary resuscitation' (DNACPR) discussions with older medical patients and their families: a survey of hospital doctors".

Supplementary Table 1: Frequencies of severity of difficulty reported by doctors in discussing DNACPR with older medical inpatients and their families.

	Number (%)
Experience of discussions with patients	
Easy	15 (9)
Fairly easy	97 (59)
Fairly difficult	48 (29)
Difficult	4 (2)
Missing	1 (<1)
Experience of discussions with families	
Easy	10 (6)
Fairly easy	93 (56)
Fairly difficult	51 (31)
Difficult	9 (6)
Missing	2 (1)

Supplementary Table 2: Crude odds ratios of the associations between doctors' characteristics and difficulty in DNACPR discussions with older medical inpatients and their families.

Variable	Category	Experience of discussions with patients		Experience of discussions with patients' families	
		Unadjusted odds ratio (95% CI)	p-value	Unadjusted odds ratio (95% CI)	p-value
Age	≤29 years	1		1	
	30-39 years	0.63 (0.28, 1.41)		0.94 (0.45, 1.97)	
	≥40 years	0.64 (0.26, 1.57)	0.43	0.23 (0.08, 0.66)	0.02
Sex	Male	1		1	
	Female	1.96 (1.00, 3.85)	0.05	1.12 (0.59, 2.13)	0.73
Grade	Trainee	1		1	
	Consultant	0.84 (0.38, 1.87)	0.68	0.31 (0.13, 0.75)	0.01
Country of medical qualification	UK	1		1	
	Non-UK	1.03 (0.39, 2.70)	0.95	1.21 (0.48, 3.02)	0.69
Years since qualification	≤4 years	1		1	
	5-14 years	0.66 (0.29, 1.50)		0.61 (0.28, 1.32)	
	≥15 years	0.81 (0.34, 1.93)	0.60	0.27 (0.10, 0.72)	0.03
Specific training in DNACPR discussions	Not received	1		1	
	Received	0.51 (0.26, 1.00)	0.05	0.65 (0.34, 1.24)	0.19

CI = Confidence Interval, DNACPR=do no attempt cardiopulmonary resuscitation

Supplementary Table 3: Frequencies with which doctors rated specific practical issues and uncertainties as causes of difficulty in discussing DNACPR with older medical inpatients and their families.

Cause of difficulty	Number (%)			
	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
Not having a suitable place to have the discussion	7 (4)	80 (49)	69 (42)	9 (6)
Not having enough time to have the discussion	19 (12)	75 (46)	61 (37)	10 (6)
Being unsure about the patient's prognosis	18 (11)	107 (65)	35 (21)	5 (3)
Being unsure about the chances of resuscitation being successful*	79 (48)	74 (45)	10 (6)	1 (<1)
Being unsure about what to say	73 (44)	80 (49)	11 (7)	1 (<1)

*N=164, 1 observation missing.