

SUMMARY

The attitudes towards life extension technologies (LET) and adherence to their usage depend on the information obtained by the prospective user.

Complete absence of introductory information about plausibility to influence aging, harmful nature of aging, evidence-based personal, social and environmental benefits and challenges related to LET usage is leading to the limitation of desirable life expectancy (only 6-11 years in addition to the mean life expectancy in the given country at the moment of the poll) and less support for LET development and usage.

Deficiency in such information and reliable arguments in support of LET are also leading to less pronounced support for LET and less adherence to their usage.

Current socio-political situation in the country can modify the support and adherence to use LET by influencing, for instance, the level of trust in the healthcare or social welfare systems.

SOLUTION: TO PROVIDE GENERAL PUBLIC WITH NECESSARY FACTS FOR AN INFORMED OPINION

PREREQUISITES TO START THE DISCUSSION

Plausibility of life extension technologies development

Proof that aging processes are amenable to intervention

Perceived severity of the condition to treat with LET

Strong link between aging and the onset of severe age-related diseases

MORE LIKELY TO SUPPORT LET: MALES AND PEOPLE INTERESTED IN SCIENCE

BELIEFS DECREASING SUPPORT

PERSONAL

- Prolonged illness period
- Lack of money/pension
- Separation from relatives (their death)
- Adverse effects
- Restriction to procreate

SOCIAL

- Overpopulation
- Burden to social welfare system
- Unequal access
- Separation from social groups

OTHER

- Life extension is unnatural
- Harm to the environment

BELIEFS INCREASING SUPPORT

PERSONAL

- More time with family
- Ability to experience and achieve more
- Opportunity to remain healthy
- Ability and right to procreate
- Efficacy and safety of the treatment

SOCIAL

- Increased humanity knowledge
- Enabling important people to live longer (doctors, scientists)
- Ability for all people to contribute more
- Equal access to the treatment
- Confidence in financial stability
- Ability to stay with relatives