Supplementary material S2

Participant contributions to each subtheme — research-team-validated retrospective matrix

Theme	Subtheme	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8	P9	P10	n
I	1. Cultural knowledge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	**10**
I	2. Culturally responsive care practices	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	**10**
I	3. Motivation and openness to culturally responsive care	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	**10**
I	4. Frustration and perceived helplessness	—	—	✓	—	✓	—	—	—	✓	✓	**4**
II	5. Sociocultural and relational challenges	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	—	✓	—	**7**
II	6. Structural barriers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	✓	—	✓	✓	**8**
II	7. Language and interpretation barriers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	**10**
II	8. Social circumstances and care-planning challenges	—	✓	✓	—	✓	✓	✓	—	✓	✓	**7**
II	9. Returning to the country of origin at the end of life	—	—	✓	✓	—	—	—	—	—	✓	**3**
II	10. Patient autonomy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	—	—	✓	✓	**7**
III	11. Cultural and personal dimensions of suffering	✓	✓	✓	—	✓	—	✓	—	✓	✓	**7**
III	12. Beliefs and values	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	—	—	✓	✓	**7**
III	13. Personal habits	✓	—	—	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	**8**
III	14. Diversity of funeral rituals	✓	—	—	—	✓	—	—	—	✓	✓	**4**

Interpretation and coding notes

Definitions. ✓ = participant assigned to the subtheme following the retrospective review and research-team validation; — = no contribution assigned to that subtheme in the validated matrix. n = number of distinct participants assigned to the subtheme.

Method. The matrix is based on retrospective examination of the ten Portuguese-language interview transcripts (P1–P10). The research team validated the final subtheme assignments, including entries initially marked for discussion. Each participant is counted once per subtheme, irrespective of how often that topic arose or whether a quotation appears in the manuscript.

Scope. Contributions may be assigned to more than one subtheme; the counts are descriptive indicators of thematic coverage, not measures of prevalence or strength of experience. This matrix does not reproduce the original code-by-code coding tree.