Defining Successful Aging: A Tangible or Elusive Concept?

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Purpose of the Study:
Everyone wants to age successfully; however, the definition and criteria of successful aging remain vague for laypersons, researchers, and policymakers in spite of decades of research on the topic. This paper highlights work of scholars who made significant theoretical contributions to the topic.

Design and Methods:
A thorough review and evaluation of the literature on successful aging was undertaken.

Results:

Implications:
Additional theoretical work is needed to better understand successful aging, including the way it can encompass disability and death and dying. The extent of rapid social and technological change influencing views on successful aging also deserves more consideration.

**Keywords:** Successful aging, Longevity, Centenarians

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- aging
- productive aging

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