

CLOSED-CHEST CARDIAC MASSAGE

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Cardiac resuscitation after cardiac arrest or ventricular fibrillation has been limited by the need for open thoracotomy and direct cardiac massage. As a result of experimental animal experimentation a method of external trans thoracic cardiac massage has been developed. Immediate resuscitative measures can now be initiated to give not only mouth-to-nose artificial respiration but also adequate cardiac massage without thoracotomy. The use of this technique on 20 patients has given an over-all permanent survival rate of 70%. Anyone, anywhere, can now initiate cardiac resuscitative procedures. All that is needed are two hands.



ORDERS NOT TO RESUSCITATE

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MEDICAL opinions on the inappropriateness of cardiopulmonary resuscitation of certain patients are now openly discussed, as acknowledged by the New Jersey Supreme Court in its recent Quinlan decision. As early as 1974 the AMA proposed that patients' progress notes and communicated to all attending staff.* There has been little open discussion, however, of the process by which a decision not to resuscitate is formulated. Within a single institution, practices may vary among physicians, in part from the lack of a clearly articulated hospital policy.

An apparent need for hospital definitions of the process by which decisions not to resuscitate should be made led to the development of the following statement, which is proposed as a policy statement for hospitals concerned with regulating the process whereby Orders Not to Resuscitate may be considered and then implemented. It was developed by us out of discussions held over the past six months in the Law and Ethics Working Group of the Faculty Seminar on the Analysis of Health and Medical Practices, an activity of the Center for the Analysis of Health Practices of the Harvard School of Public Health.

Do-Not-Resuscitate (DNR) Orders

A do-not-resuscitate (DNR) order tells medical professionals not to perform CPR. This means that doctors, nurses and emergency medical personnel will not attempt emergency CPR if the patient's breathing or heartbeat stops.

- **WILL NOT** administer chest compressions, insert an artificial airway, administer resuscitative drugs, defibrillate or cardiovert, provide respiratory assistance (other than suctioning the airway and administering oxygen), initiate resuscitative IV, or initiate cardiac monitoring.

The Multi-Society Task Force on Persistent Vegetative State defines the persistent vegetative state as "a vegetative state present one month after acute traumatic or nontraumatic brain injury or lasting for at least one month in patients with degenerative or metabolic disorders or developmental malformations" (7). Since the patient in this condition cannot feel pain the burden cannot be physical. However, can the burden be emotional or financial? Can treatment be medically futile but

The Hippocratic writings encourage physicians to recognize when medicine has reached its limit of usefulness (5). Plato emphasized the "inappropriateness of persisting with treatment which leaves the surviving patient with a useless life" (6)

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS Committee on Bioethics and Committee on Hospital Care

The decision to forgo life-sustaining medical treatment does not necessarily imply an intent or choice to hasten the death of a child.²⁵ Although a child's life may be shortened by forgoing burdensome interventions or providing adequate sedation in the face of otherwise unrelieved symptoms, the goal of palliative care is to optimize the quality of the child's experience rather than hasten death. On occasion, the ease process, and not the medication,²⁹ Karelly, the relief of progressive symptoms may require deep sedation. Dying with dignity and without pain or distress is the primary goal.

Ethical and Clinical Issues in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) in the Frail Elderly with Dementia: A Jewish Perspective

ABSTRACT

Few clinical situations arouse more emotion and drama and lead to more conflict in decision-making than cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). The procedure was described as potentially beneficial more than 40 years ago. However, its efficacy and place in the care of the frail elderly have taken a long time to be established. In the world of secular medical practice, there are many situations when CPR may be provided to elderly, frail and cognitively compromised individuals for whom its clinical benefit is questionable. In those patients suffering from dementia, surrogates are responsible for decision-making, which complicates the process.

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→ ուսումնասիրելով հիմնականում ընդհանուր կրթության մասին ինչպես նաև հասարակական գիտությունների մասին (հատկապես ինչպես հասարակական գիտությունները կարող են օգտակար լինել հասարակությանը) և միջոցներով հարմարեցվելով իրենց համար համապատասխան ծրագրերի կազմակերպությանը:
Սակայն, որքան որ նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ, նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ:
Սակայն, որքան որ նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ, նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ:

(հարցերը թողնել)
"բաց" խորհուրդ

Ընդհանուր առմամբ, հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ: Սակայն, որքան որ նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ, նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ:

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Հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ:

Հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ:
Սակայն, որքան որ նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ, նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ:
Սակայն, որքան որ նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ, նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ:

Ընդհանուր առմամբ, հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ:

Սակայն, որքան որ նախնական և միջին կրթության մասին հարցերի լուծումը կապված է հասարակական գիտությունների հետ:

THE DOCTRINE OF PERSONAL AUTONOMY

The renowned American jurist Benjamin N. Cardozo established in 1914 the principle that continues to guide medical jurisprudence to this day: "Every human being of adult years and sound mind has a right to determine what shall be done with his own body; and a surgeon who performs an operation without his patient's consent commits an assault, for which he is liable in damages."

Ethical issues
Health care professionals have an ethical obligation to protect life and to relieve suffering. Autonomy, nonmaleficence, beneficence and justice are accepted moral principles governing the behavior of health care professionals within society (1). Technological and medical advances have created a conflict between the application of these moral principles and certain kinds of medical treatment. The tension between which moral principle takes precedence in which situation creates the conflict. The principle of autonomy is a strong cornerstone of American bioethics. For the informed patient with decision-making capacity, the principle of autonomy is one of the fundamental ethical principles underlying medical care choices. However, this fundamental ethical principle is not absolute. Other ethical principles of beneficence, nonmaleficence, and justice must be balanced along with autonomy. Three major diverse ethical theories affect attitudes toward health care delivery and services: the utilitarian, or consequentialist, view; the formalist or deontological view; and the virtues view. The utilitarian viewpoint, as expressed by Mills, sees an ethical decision as that which produces the greatest positive balance of value over negative balance of value for all persons affected (2). Kant's deontological viewpoint of ethics states that some acts are wrong and others right independent of their consequences (3). The virtue ethics connected with Aristotle has been revived in the past twenty-five years (4). Although rules and goals are respected, the central theme of the virtue ethics perspective is the character of the person.

GENERAL ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

A fundamental difference exists between Judaism and secular philosophical ethics in many facets of life. The basis, validity and source of Jewish ethics is rooted in the belief in God and His Torah, whereas the basis of secular ethics is primarily humanism and rational intellect. Jewish ethics and law are derived from the written and oral law (the Bible and the Talmud, respectively), which were given divinely to Moses on Mount Sinai. The Jewish rules of law and principles of ethics include commandments governing the relationship between man and God, some of which have no rational or humanistic explanation, as well as precepts governing man's relationship to his fellow man, which are logical and explainable in humanistic terms. The Torah and its precepts are continually interpreted and expanded by the rabbinic Sages of each generation who add protective rules and regulations and provide legal, ethical and personal guidance to the Jewish people.

Halachah, the law of Torah, encompasses every facet of human life. It also encompasses every facet of human death.

The Slow Code: An Ethics Case Conference

Case Presentation

L.J., a 54-year-old woman with end-stage ovarian cancer was admitted to a teaching hospital with sepsis. Throughout her hospitalization, the emergency department (ED), intensive care unit (ICU), and oncology teams all addressed the topic of a do not resuscitate (DNR) order with the patient and family members. However, L.J. still harbored hope that another treatment would become available and she wished that, in the event of cardiac arrest, "everything be done." Her doctors felt frustrated and helpless in the face of her advanced disease, but promised to follow her wishes. In the middle of the night during the second week of admission, she experienced a cardiac arrest and a code was called. Resuscitation was initiated with bag-and-mask ventilation and chest compressions. Epinephrine and atropine were called for by the resident, but were secretly injected into the mattress instead of the patient's intravenous line. After one round of medications, the resident ordered a cessation of efforts and pronounced the patient dead.

Introduction

In hospital wards throughout the country, certain patients experiencing cardiac arrest are receiving partial, half-hearted attempts at cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). So called "slow codes" are performed on patients who have preexisting poor prognoses, but have full resuscitation orders. Slow codes, also known as "partial", "show", "light blue", or "Hollywood" codes, are cardiopulmonary resuscitative efforts that involve a deliberate decision to not be aggressive.¹ In these cases, there is often discord between the expectations of the hospital staff and those of the patient and his or her family or health care proxy. The slow code has become an unspoken rite of passage for many house officers.

הנהגות: וכלל...
הנהגות אלה הן...
הנהגות אלו הן...
הנהגות אלו הן...
הנהגות אלו הן...

ענין א, ענין ב, ענין ג:
ענין א, ענין ב, ענין ג...
ענין א, ענין ב, ענין ג...
ענין א, ענין ב, ענין ג...
ענין א, ענין ב, ענין ג...

הנהגות הכלליות והפרטיות

הנהגות אלה הן...
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הנהגות כלליות, פרטיות, והנהגות אחרות

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הנהגות כלליות והנהגות פרטיות

הנהגות כלליות, פרטיות, והנהגות אחרות



contemporary moral discourse through the mediation of an entirely for-
 Hebrew to express such distinctions. Those distinctions have entered
 decided, one is hard pressed to find appropriate terminology in rabbinic
 versus "extraordinary" means of treatment and the exclusion of "hero-
 ordinary", the commonly drawn distinction between "ordinary"
 therefore, may not be withheld from an incurable patient.
 likewise obligated to use them in order to prolong life. Medication, we are
 make possible catheters, intravenous infusions and respirators; we are
 case. Similarly, God provided the materials and the technology which
 properties, we are obliged to use them in warding off illness and dis-
 dowed man with the intelligence necessary to discover their medicinal
 off hunger and thirst. God created drugs and medications and en-
 God created food and water, we are obliged to use them in saving
 of *pitah mesh*.

ing been spanned by providence and designed to serve as instruments
 tely the same manner, all medical artifacts must be recognized as hav-
 must be attributed to God and acknowledged with gratitude. In pre-
 midges their role as instruments of providence. As such, medications
 that man may cure illnesses. The "artificiality" of medications in no way
 providentially makes medication and technology available to man so
 active hastening of death, but only the removal of the impediment."
 clattering noise or salt upon his tongue. . . since such acts involve no
 which constitutes a hindrance to the departure of the soul, such as a
 of *Kema, Torah De'ah 339:1*, who permits the removal of "anything"
 don to heal. In support of that position, those scholars cite the words
 process has actually begun, argue these authorities, there is no obliga-
 were, actually in the clutches of the angel of death and the death
 authorities, applies to a *gore* and to a *gore* only. When a patient is, as it
 The distinction between an active and a passive act, as drawn by those
 perform any action which will lighten the life of a patient in this state.
 be hastened, according to those authorities, there is no obligation to
 provide for an unimpeded death. While the death of a *gore* may not
 "authorities," may be withheld from the moribund patient in order to
 death, there is one situation in which treatment, according to some
 Although euthanasia in any form is forbidden, and the hastening of

8
 To state that preservation of life is a cardinal value is not to declare
 that life must be preserved in any and all circumstances. The few excep-
 tions to the primacy of the preservation of life must be spelled out with
 precision. One such exception does exist, at least in theory, in the case
 of a patient who suffers intolerable pain. In theory, there is no obliga-
 tion, in the opinion of this writer, to treat a patient who suffers excruciat-
 ing pain that cannot be palliated. Although active euthanasia cannot
 be countenanced in any circumstances, withdrawal of treatment is war-
 ranted in such situations, at least in theory.

8
 enhanced nor diminished by virtue of the quality of life preserved. Nor,
 sons in a so-called vegetative state. The *mezuzah* of saving a life is neither
 don, including the feeble-minded the mentally deranged, and even per-
 The category of *pitah mesh* extends to human life of every descrip-
 denotes man the right to make judgments with regard to quality of life.
 life-sustaining procedures in the event of a terminal malady. Judaism
 of the patient and, under certain conditions, to withhold or withdraw
 Such legislation is designed to bind the physician to respect the wishes
 Death Act which have been enacted by a number of state legislatures.
 the provisions of legislation such as the various versions of the Natural
 For these same reasons, Judaism cannot sanction a "living will" or

7
 Although man must persist in his effort to prolong life, he may,
 nevertheless, express human needs and concerns through the
 medium of prayer. There is no contradiction whatsoever between
 acting upon an existing obligation and pleading to be relieved of
 further responsibility." Man may beseech God to relieve him
 from divinely imposed obligations when they appear to exceed
 human endurance. But the ultimate decision is God's, and God's
 alone. There are times when God's answer to prayer is in the nega-
 tive. But this, too, is an answer.

7
 The aggressiveness with which Judaism teaches that life must
 be preserved is not all incompatible with the awareness that the
 human condition is such that there are circumstances in which
 that Rabbi Judah the Prince, redactor of the Mishnah, was af-
 flicted by what appears to have been an incurable and debilitating
 intestinal disorder. He had a female servant who is depicted in
 rabbinic writings as a woman of exemplary piety and moral char-
 actor. This woman is reported to have prayed for his death. On
 the basis of this narrative, the thirteenth-century authority, Rab-
 benu Meir of Gerondi, in his commentary on *Middot 50a*, states
 that it is permissible, and even praiseworthy, to pray for the death
 of a patient who is gravely ill and in extreme pain. He chides those
 who are remiss in discharging the obligation of visiting the sick,
 (the patient) in living but even when (the patient) would [deny]
 benefit from death, even that small benefit [prayer for his de-
 mise] he does not become upon him."

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TRADITION

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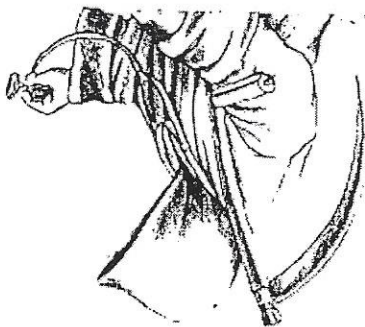
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The new ideology in health care... and how to survive it

By Rabbi Mordechai Biser

An absolute must-read and must-print for anybody with elderly parents

<http://www.jewishworldreview.com> | An elderly man with health problems was admitted to a major teaching hospital. His son was shocked to find that a DNR (do not resuscitate) order had been entered on his father's medical chart. In response to the son's inquiry, the attending physician said that the patient had told the doctor that he wanted a DNR order. The son insisted that his father, being an Orthodox Jew, would want to be resuscitated if his life were in danger. Neither the son nor the doctor had anything in writing from the patient, who was now incapable of communicating his desires. The son managed to get his father's care transferred to another physician, who removed the DNR order and treated the patient. The father recovered, and had no recollection of any DNR conversation with a doctor.



THE "HALACHIC HEALTH CARE PROXY": AN INSURANCE POLICY WITH UNIQUE BENEFITS

Shortly before the summer, the highest policy making body within Agudath Israel of America, the *Moetzes Gedolei HaTorah* (Council of Torah Sages), arrived at a historic decision: Agudath Israel should develop, and then initiate a major national campaign to encourage people to sign a "halachic health care proxy" — a standardized form designed to help ensure that all medical and post-death decisions made by others on an observant Jew's behalf would be made pursuant to *halacha*.

The Jewish Observer, September 1990