

Advanced Directives:

What is a advanced directive ?

- Advance directives are legal documents that state the patient's wishes when the patient becomes unable to speak for themselves.
- Advanced directives are created ahead of any medical incapacitation in order to ensure that the patient has the ability to make their own decisions when they are unable to do so.
(Morrison, 2010)



Types of Advanced Directives

- Living Will
- Durable Power of Attorney
- Surrogate Decision Maker
 - Substitute Judgment
- Guardianship
- Health Care Proxy



(Morrison, 2010)



Living Will

- A living will is a legal document that discloses a persons individual needs and requests when unable to make competent decisions on their own.
- Living will should be validated by two witnesses that are not related to the patient. (Morrison ,2010)
- Decisions that a living will can address are:
 - Life-support treatments such as mechanical ventilation , cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and life sustaining medications.
 - Nutrition and hydration—feeding tubes & artificial nutrition
 - Guardianship or decision maker appointment
 - Dialysis and organ donation (Advanced directives, 2014)



Durable Power of Attorney

- “A *durable power of attorney* is a legal device that permits one individual, known as a “principle”, to give to another person called the “attorney-in-fact”, the authority to act on his or her behalf” (Morrison, 2010)
- The *attorney-in-fact* that is appointed is giving the responsibility to take care of banking, legal and real estate decision making for a specified amount of time that may be for a lifetime if needed. (Morrison, 2010)
- Issues with a *durable power of attorney* is the appointed “attorney-in-fact is limited by their own knowledge of legal matter and finances, therefore leaving room for possible errors. (Morrison, 2010)



Surrogate Decision Maker

- A *surrogate decision maker* is a agent who makes a choices for a patient when the person is unable to make them for themselves.
- A surrogate must follow the religious and moral beliefs when making a choice for the patient.
- “*Substituted judgment* is a form of surrogate decision making where the surrogate attempts to establish what decision the patient would have made if the patient were competent to do so” (Morrison, 2010).



Guardianship and Health Care Proxy

- *Guardianship* is a process where the court system declares a patient incompetent for decision making and a legal guardian is appointed for managing financial, medical, and living decisions.
- *Health Care Proxy* is an appointed person to make health treatment decisions if the said person is unable to do so for themselves.

(Morrison, 2010)



DYING DECLARATION

It is a declaration which is generally related to the cause of the death of the declarant. *For a dying declaration to be admissible as an evidence in the court of law, it is not important that the declaration has to be made by a person only when his death is imminent.*

Meaning of Dying Declaration

- Dying declaration is based on the maxim “Nemo moriturus praesumitur mentire”
- It means a man will not meet his maker with a lie in his mouth.

WHAT IS ORGAN DONATION

It is the process of removing organ or tissue from a live ,dead or recently dead person to be used for another person.

The person who donates is **DONOR** and who receives is **RECIPIENT**.

INTRODUCTION

▶ DEFINITION :

An organ transplant is a surgical operation in which a failure or damaged organ in human body is removed and replaced with a functioning one. The donated organ may be from a deceased donor, a living donor or an animal.

- ▶ Organs that can be transplanted are the heart, kidneys, liver, lungs, pancreas, intestine and thymus.
- ▶ Tissues include bones, tendons, cornea, skin, heart valves, nerves and veins.
- ▶ Worldwide, the kidneys are the most commonly transplanted organs, followed by the liver and then the heart.

General Recommendations for Organ Donation

- Transplant surgeons have no role in weaning process
- Anesthesiologists who might participate in management of recipient should not withdraw care
- Opioids and sedatives titrated to comfort, not death
- Prolonged period of agonal hypotension may damage organs and surgeon may choose not to harvest them
- No organs procured until death declared
- Skin can be prepped if patient is unconscious
- If a donor is in the same ICU as a potential recipient, the medical teams caring for the two should be different

Euthanasia DEFINITION



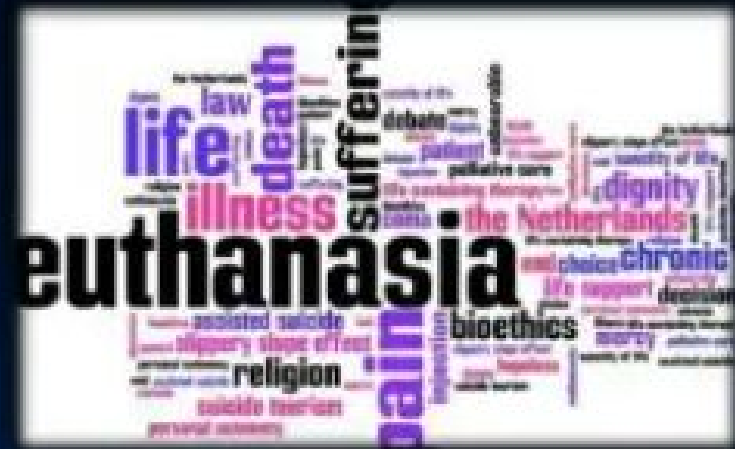
- The painless killing of a patient suffering from an incurable and painful disease or in an irreversible coma.
- Mercy killing to prevent a prolonged and painful death.
- Easy death in relatively painless killing or permitted of death of a terminally ill reasons of mercy, sometimes referred to as mercy killing.
- From the Greek “ευθανασία” meaning “good death”.
- It is also known as:
 - Physician Assisted Suicide
 - Physician Aid in Dying
 - Mercy Killing
 - Imposed Death

It is currently illegal in most locations.

Reasons

- Unbearable pain
- Right to commit suicide
- People should not be forced to stay alive
- The frail aged
- Those with dementia
- Survivors of severe head injury
- Those with serious terminal physical illness
- Those with incurable mental illness
- Severely impaired children and adults





Types of euthanasia



TYPE OF EUTHANASIA

Voluntary Euthanasia

*Sometimes **death**
ends suffering, not **life***

- ***1. voluntary euthanasia -***

The person wants to die and says so. This includes:

- ❖ Refusing medical treatment
- ❖ Asking for medical treatment to be stopped
- ❖ Asking for life support to be switched off
- ❖ Refusing to eat

2. Non-Voluntary euthanasia -



Non-voluntary euthanasia:
When the person who is killed
made no request and gave no
consent.

- The person cannot make a decision or cannot make their wishes known. This includes:
 - ❖ Coma patients
 - ❖ Child and infant patients
 - ❖ Severely brain damaged patients
 - ❖ Senile patients
- ❖ Non-voluntary euthanasia is conducted when the consent of the patient is unavailable. Examples include child euthanasia, which is illegal worldwide but decriminalised under certain specific circumstances in the Netherlands under the Groningen Protocol.

3. Indirect euthanasia



- This means providing treatment (usually to reduce pain) that has the side effect of speeding the patient's death.
- Since the primary intention is not to kill, this is seen by some people (but not all) as morally acceptable.
- A justification along these lines is formally called the doctrine of double effect.

4. Involuntary euthanasia -



- The person wants to live but is killed anyway. This includes:
 - patient being refused a life sustaining treatment
 - drugs being too costly
 - a limited supply of organs for a transplant
 - patient being on a long waiting list

Involuntary euthanasia is conducted against the will of the patient

5. Active euthanasia -



It is when death is brought by an act for example taking a high dose of drugs Either by oneself or by the aid of a physician

The medical professionals, or another person, deliberately do something that causes the patient to die.

6. Passive euthanasia



**Passive
Euthanasia**

- the patient dies because the medical professionals either don't do something necessary to keep the patient alive, or when they stop doing something that is keeping the patient alive. This includes:

- switching off life-support machines
- disconnecting the feeding tube
- not carrying out a life-extending operation
- not giving the patient life-extending drugs

Places where Euthanasia is Legal

Non-active euthanasia, or assisted suicide, is legal in three US states;

- Oregon
- Washington
- Montana
- New Hampshire is currently considering a bill on assisted suicide

Active euthanasia, commonly referred simply as euthanasia, is only legal in:

- the Netherlands
- Belgium

Assisted suicide is also legal in:

- Albania
- Luxembourg

THANK
YOU