

<http://ccehs.dartmouth-hitchcock.org>The 29th Meeting of the New Hampshire-Vermont
Hospital Ethics Committee NetworkApril 20, 2009
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
Lebanon, New Hampshire

The 29th Meeting of the New Hampshire-Vermont Hospital Ethics Committee Network

What's So Bad About Paternalism, Anyway?



April 20, 2009 Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center Lebanon, New Hampshire

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Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

Paternalism ruled medicine from the time of Hippocrates until very recently. Of late, however, patient empowerment has become our predominant consideration, to the point where some have labeled the end of the 20th century the "era of radical autonomy." Many have bemoaned this transition, concerned that it relegates health care professionals to the role of technicians and forces them to stand idly by while patients make harmful or unwise decisions.

At the 29th meeting of the New Hampshire-Vermont Ethics Committee Network, we will revisit this topic and examine "what's so bad about paternalism, anyway?" Gail Cashman will start us off with a lunchtime discussion of the definition and history of paternalism. Bob Orr will then explore the ethical issues involved when a newly paralyzed patient asks that life support be discontinued. If the health care team refuses to grant that request, is that an example of paternalism, or of violating present autonomy to safeguard future autonomy? Next, Marcia Bosek will discuss possible responses to the "non-compliant patient" who says s/he wants to get better but isn't willing to follow medical advice. Finally, Bob Macauley will analyze the practice of not offering surgical options to patients who are not appropriate "surgical candidates," perhaps the last vestige of paternalism in medical practice.

Please join us for an afternoon of thought-provoking presentations and thoughtful discussion, as we grapple with challenging cases and reflect on the role of ethics committees in balancing patient rights and professional responsibility.

Robert C. Macauley, MD
Co-Course Director

James L. Bernat, MD
Co-Course Director

Agenda

11:45	Registration and Lunch
12:00 pm	Announcements and Business Meeting
12:15	Part I ~ Outcome Measures/Pre-Test
12:20	Definition and History of Paternalism ~ Gail S. Cashman, MSN, RN
12:40	Confessions of a Closet Paternalist ~ Robert D. Orr, MD, CM
1:20	Break
1:30	Small Group Discussion
2:00	Working with the Challenging Patient ~ Marcia D. Bosek, DNSc, RN
2:40	The Ethics of Becoming a "Surgical Candidate" ~ Robert C. Macauley, MD
3:20	Panel Discussion with Questions
3:45	Part II ~ Outcome Measures/Post-Test
3:50	Final Comment and Evaluation
4:00	Adjournment

Objectives

At the conclusion of this conference, learners will be able to:

- Describe the history of paternalism in medical care.
- Discuss at least two possible ethical dilemmas inherent in situations where the duties of autonomy and beneficence are in conflict
- List at least three appropriate responses to patients requesting treatment that is harmful, or refusing treatment that is helpful

Faculty & Planning Committee

JAMES L. BERNAT, MD* – Professor of Neurology and Medicine; Staff Neurologist and Director of Clinical Ethics^

MARCIA D. BOSEK, DNSc, RN* - Clinical Ethicist, Department of Clinical Ethics, Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT

GAIL S. CASHMAN, MSN, RN – Case Consultant, Department of Clinical Ethics, Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT

DEBRA HASTINGS, RN, PhD, CNOR* – Acting Director of Continuing Nursing Education, Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences^

ROBERT C. MACAULEY, MD* - Medical Director of Clinical Ethics, Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT

MICHELE NILSSON* – Educational Program Coordinator, Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences^

ROBERT D. ORR, MD, CM – Professor of Family Medicine, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

MARY TURCO, EdD* – Director, Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences and Continuing Medical Education^

* Planning Committee Member
^ Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
Dartmouth Medical School

Information


DATE/TIME/LOCATION: April 20, 2009, 11:45 am - 4:00 pm, Auditorium E of the Norris Cotton Cancer Center, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, New Hampshire

DIRECTIONS/PARKING: Information will be sent with your receipt, or can be found at <http://ccehs.dartmouth-hitchcock.org>

AUDIENCE: Physicians, nurses, other healthcare providers, researchers and members of Bioethics Committees.

ACCREDITATION:
Physicians- The Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center designates this educational activity for a maximum of 3.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses - Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center’s Nursing Continuing Education Council is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

This educational activity carries 3.58 contact hours. 

Social Workers - For NASW accreditation, call CCEHS at 603-653-1531 to find out if an authorization number has been issued.

REGISTRATION FEE/DEADLINE: \$30 per person. Registration deadline is April 6, 2009. You may register online at <http://ccehs.dartmouth-hitchcock.org>

MORE INFORMATION: For registration information or if you need assistance because of a disability or special dietary requirements, please call 603-653-1531.

Registration

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April 20, 2009 • Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
Register online at <http://ccehs.dartmouth-hitchcock.org>

Name: _____

Degree or License: (e.g. MD, RN) _____

Job Title: _____

Affiliation: _____

Specialty: _____

Department (if applicable): _____

Interest(s): _____

Work Address: _____

Daytime Phone No.: _____ work home

Mailing Address (if different than above): _____

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