



CPB Ethics Services

Clarity of Goals, Ethical Options and, Most of All, Trust

Ethics consultation may be one of the last areas in healthcare where machines can't replace humans. After all, what algorithm could have navigated this case:

A 33-year old woman with an ectopic pregnancy refuses surgery based on misinformation that has led her to believe that the fetus could be surgically transplanted into her uterus. Some on the medical staff want to deem her incompetent. Instead, based on the ethics consultant's recommendations, the woman is advised to stay close to the hospital so that when the pregnancy ruptures, they can safely remove the dead fetus. Feeling supported, the woman eventually consented to the surgery.

In this case, by establishing trust, providing clarity of goals of care and establishing the ethical permissibility of treatment options, our trained clinical ethicist was able to make recommendations acceptable to all parties.

When facing uncertainty or conflict in value-laden situations – whether regarding a specific patient like this woman, a procedure or system-wide policy – ethics services can benefit your healthcare organization, from patient outcomes and satisfaction to employee retention, risk management, compliance and safety.

[LEARN MORE](#)

CELEBRATING
40 YEARS
OF PRACTICAL
BIOETHICS

HEAD,
HEART &
HANDS

Celebrating Our 40th Anniversary Your Support Provides Guidance at the Crossroads of Decision

Thanks to your support, over the past four decades, the Center has

- Improved care for the seriously ill
- Expanded bioethics education
- Provided a stronger voice in health and healthcare for all people

We have big plans to celebrate those 40 years of accomplishments, starting with a kickoff luncheon in October culminating in a gala event next April. Details coming soon!



SAVE THE DATE 29th Annual Flanigan Lecture Listening to the Patient's Voice

Wednesday, Sept 20, 2023

You can hear me, but are you listening? Talia Goldenberg's doctors, nurses and support staff apparently were not.

Talia and her parents were unable to convince them to take her difficulty breathing

seriously. After a botched code, Talia was left in a permanent vegetative state and 10 days later was removed from life support and allowed to die.

Her parents Jeff Goldenberg, MD, and Naomi Kirtner, MA, founded Talia's Voice: Projects for Patient Safety to change the culture in medicine so that nobody else's child dies because the people in charge won't listen.

You can meet Jeff and Naomi in person or virtually on September 20 when they present the 29th Annual Rosemary Flanigan Lecture.

This year's Flanigan Lecture – the first public event in the Center's yearlong 40th anniversary celebration – is appropriately chaired by [Tarris \(Terry\) Rosell](#), Rosemary Flanigan Chair in Bioethics, and his life partner Ruth Rosell.



Ethics Perspective on a Controversial Innovation to Recover Donor Hearts for Transplantation

Blog Summary

The donor organ recovery protocol for organs donated for transplantation following pronouncement of death on circulatory or respiratory criteria described in Terry Rosell's article came to his attention in early 2022 when it was being discussed in numerous publications. It subsequently became a focus of regional ethics consultation requiring discernment, dialogue and written response.

The controversy concerns whether or not the protocol violates the meaning of "irreversible" or "permanent" in statutory versions of the Uniform Determination of Death Act. The UDDA provides a comprehensive legal basis for determining death in all situations.

Dr. Rosell presents reasoning for and against the ethical permissibility of the protocol, concluding that it seems ethically permissible although not obligatory, with additional recommendations.

READ



Who Will Speak For You? Free Advance Care Planning Webinars

Have you thought about who will speak for you in a life-threatening situation if you can't speak for yourself?

While most of us want to live to a ripe old age and die peacefully surrounded by family at home, that's not what typically happens. Increasingly, the trajectory of the leading causes of death in the U.S. involve a slow, lingering decline.

Join us on for **our last webinar this season** on [May 25](#), noon to 1:00 p.m. CT, to learn how you can ensure that the healthcare you want is the healthcare you get throughout your life by documenting your wishes and appointing a healthcare representative. The webinar is made possible by a partnership with Kansas City Public Library.

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