

BIOETHICS & HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER



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WELCOME...

Welcome to the monthly Bioethics and Humanities Newsletter provided by the Program in Bioethics and Humanities at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

Program in Bioethics and Humanities: *Our Mission*

We are committed to helping healthcare professionals explore and understand the increasingly complex ethical questions that have been brought on by advances in medical technology and the health care system. We achieve this through education, research, and service within the Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa Health Care, University of Iowa, and the wider Iowa community.

[More Details About
The Program](#)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

PODCAST: PHYSICIAN INFLUENCE IN SHARED DECISION MAKING

In a podcast hosted by the Southern Medical Association, Dr. Lauris Kaldjian, Director of the Program in Bioethics and Humanities, explains the need for ‘shared decision making’ between patients and physicians, why it is important, and details steps physicians can take to make that happen. Dr. Kaldjian also offers insight to help physicians avoid slipping into manipulation or coercion when faced with certain situations. To listen to this podcast, [click here](#).



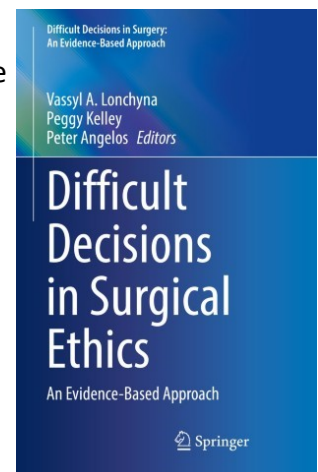
PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHT

A Careful Balance of the Benefits and Burdens of Pediatric ECMO

Samara Lewis, Maria Urdaneta Perez, Catherine Hunter, **Erica M. Carlisle**
Book Chapter in *Difficult Decisions in Surgical Ethics* (2022)

Over the past several decades, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) has been utilized for an increasingly diverse range of pediatric pathologies. While this expansion has allowed pediatric patients to survive physiologic insults previously deemed lethal, it has also generated complex clinical scenarios and rich ethical discussions. As providers work to better understand the circumstances in which ECMO benefits pediatric patients, they must consider the limitations of this invasive, physiologically demanding technology and the potential moral distress and emotional burden it’s use may create for patients, families, and healthcare providers. In this chapter, we first highlight benefits experienced by pediatric patients when ECMO is used as a bridge to recovery, corrective surgery, transplant, or decision making. We then discuss the ethical challenges inherent to the expansion of ECMO: withholding or withdrawing care, informed consent in emergent settings, exposure of children to significant morbidity, and equitable distribution of this relatively scarce and resource intensive technology. We suggest that a balance must be found between the benefits and burdens of pediatric ECMO.

To continue reading the book chapter, [click here](#).



BIOETHICS TOPIC OF THE MONTH:

GOALS OF CARE COMMUNICATION

Key Articles

- ⇒ Bernacki RE, Block SD, American College of Physicians High Value Care Task F. Communication about serious illness care goals: A review and synthesis of best practices. [JAMA Intern Med.](#) 2014 Dec; 174: 1994-2003.
- ⇒ Childers JW, Back AL, Tulsy JA, et al. REMAP: A framework for goals of care conversations. [J Oncol Pract.](#) 2017 Oct; 13: e844-e850.
- ⇒ Curtis JR, Downey L, Back AL, et al. Effect of a patient and clinician communication-priming intervention on patient-reported goals-of-care discussions between patients with serious illness and clinicians: A randomized clinical trial. [JAMA Intern Med.](#) 2018 May 26. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Fallowfield LJ, Jenkins VA, Beveridge HA. Truth may hurt but deceit hurts more: Communication in palliative care. [Palliat Med.](#) 2002 Jul; 16: 297-303.
- ⇒ Gattellari M, Voigt KJ, Butow PN, et al. When the treatment goal is not cure: Are cancer patients equipped to make informed decisions? [J Clin Oncol.](#) 2002 Jan 15; 20: 503-513.
- ⇒ Hagerty RG, Butow PN, Ellis PA, et al. Cancer patient preferences for communication of prognosis in the metastatic setting. [J Clin Oncol.](#) 2004 May 1; 22: 1721-1730.
- ⇒ Hagiwara Y, Villarreal D, Sanchez-Reilly S. Present planning versus future planning: We need a shift toward goals of care education for physicians. [J Palliat Med.](#) 2015 Feb; 18: 99.
- ⇒ Jain N, Bernacki RE. Goals of care conversations in serious illness: A practical guide. [Med Clin North Am.](#) 2020 May; 104: 375-389.
- ⇒ Kaldjian LC, Curtis AE, Shinkunas LA, et al. Goals of care toward the end of life: A structured literature review. [Am J Hosp Palliat Care.](#) 2009 Dec-2009 Jan; 25: 501-511.
- ⇒ Khandelwal N, Curtis JR, Freedman VA, et al. How often is end-of-life care in the United States inconsistent with patients' goals of care? [J Palliat Med.](#) 2017 Dec; 20: 1400-1404.
- ⇒ Lakin JR, Arnold CG, Catzen HZ, et al. Early serious illness communication in hospitalized patients: A study of the implementation of the speaking about goals and expectations (SAGE) program. [Healthc \(Amst\).](#) 2021 Jun; 9: 100510.
- ⇒ Roze des Ordons AL, Lockyer J, Hartwick M, et al. An exploration of contextual dimensions impacting goals of care conversations in postgraduate medical education. [BMC Palliat Care.](#) 2016 Mar 21; 15: 34.
- ⇒ You JJ, Downar J, Fowler RA, et al. Barriers to goals of care discussions with seriously ill hospitalized patients and their families: A multicenter survey of clinicians. [JAMA Intern Med.](#) 2015 Apr; 175: 549-556.

Key Resource



Photo Credit: <https://acpdecisions.org/goals-of-care-conversations-3-ways-to-improve-your-skills/>

BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE

- ⇒ Bleher H, Braun M. Diffused responsibility: Attributions of responsibility in the use of AI-driven clinical decision support systems. [AI Ethics](#). 2022 Jan 24. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Braveman PA, Arkin E, Proctor D, et al. Systemic and structural racism: Definitions, examples, health damages, and approaches to dismantling. [Health Aff \(Millwood\)](#). 2022 Feb; 41: 171-178.
- ⇒ Brown JEH, Koenig BA. How ought decisions that weigh on life and death be justly informed and governed to benefit more than the privileged few with access to a trusted clinician? [Am J Bioeth](#). 2022 Feb; 22: 1-3.
- ⇒ Carter M. Advance directives: The principle of determining authenticity. [Hastings Cent Rep](#). 2022 Jan; 52: 32-41.
- ⇒ Ciaffa J. The ethics of unilateral do-not-resuscitate orders for covid-19 patients. [J Law Med Ethics](#). 2021; 49: 633-640.

“Expanding the use of unilateral DNRs during a pandemic, particularly based on appeals to futility, is inconsistent with current practice, risks creating distrust among patients and surrogates, and can adversely impact patients who are already vulnerable to socially influenced health disparities.”

(Ciaffa)

- ⇒ Grove G, Lovell M, Best M. Perspectives of major world religions regarding euthanasia and assisted suicide: A comparative analysis. [J Relig Health](#). 2022 Jan 29. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Humphreys K, Shover CL, Andrews CM, et al. Responding to the opioid crisis in North America and beyond: Recommendations of the Stanford-Lancet Commission. [Lancet](#). 2022 Feb 5; 399: 555-604.
- ⇒ Kaye DK. Navigating ethical challenges of conducting randomized clinical trials on covid-19. [Philos Ethics Humanit Med](#). 2022 Jan 28; 17: 2.
- ⇒ Kluesner NH, McGrath N, Allen NG, et al. Ethical issues and obligations with undocumented immigrants relying on emergency departments for dialysis. [J Am Coll Emerg Physicians Open](#). 2021 Dec; 2: e12590.
- ⇒ Lee HS, Yang CL, Chen TR, et al. "We want to sign it, but we can't do it": Results from a qualitative pilot study of experiences related to advance directives among families of older residents in a long-term care facility. [J Hosp Palliat Nurs](#). 2021 Dec 1; 23: 551-556.
- ⇒ Mezinska S, Gallagher L, Verbrugge M, et al. Ethical issues in genomics research on neurodevelopmental disorders: A critical interpretive review. [Hum Genomics](#). 2021 Mar 12; 15: 16.
- ⇒ Persson I. What is special about conscientious objection? [Bioethics](#). 2022 Jan 26. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Schupmann W, Li X, Wendler D. Acceptable risks in pediatric research: Views of the US public. [Pediatrics](#). 2022 Jan 1; 149.

BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE (CONTINUED)

- ⇒ Vasconcelos SMR, Esher A, Penido C, et al. An ongoing science-society-ethics experiment: The human challenge trial debate in covid-19 pandemic: The human challenge trial debate in covid-19 pandemic. [EMBO Rep](#). 2022 Jan 5; 23: e54184.
- ⇒ Wadman E, Conway L, Garbarini J, et al. Moral distress in genetic counseling: A study of North American genetic counselors. [J Genet Couns](#). 2022 Jan 19. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Yeh MJ. Solidarity in pandemics, mandatory vaccination, and public health ethics. [Am J Public Health](#). 2022 Feb; 112: 255-261.



BIOETHICS IN THE NEWS

- ⇒ Citizen Science projects surging, but often lack IRB ethical oversight. [Medical Ethics Advisor](#), March 1, 2022.
- ⇒ Global health champion Dr. Paul Farmer has died. [NPR](#), February 21, 2022.
- ⇒ Forced sterilization is legal in 30+ US states. [Bioedge](#), February 19, 2022.
- ⇒ Should unvaccinated people be denied health care? Iowa medical ethicist weighs in. [The Gazette](#), February 16, 2022.
- ⇒ When should scientists proceed with heritable genetic engineering? [Bioedge](#), February 15, 2022.
- ⇒ Fight over opioid prescribing—and when it turns criminal—heads to Supreme Court. [STAT News](#), February 11, 2022.
- ⇒ Who are we caring for in the I.C.U.? [The New York Times](#), February 6, 2022.
- ⇒ It's a terrible idea to deny medical care to unvaccinated people. [The Atlantic](#), January 20, 2022.



BIOETHICS OPPORTUNITIES

UPCOMING

- ⇒ Annual Research Ethics Day Webinar hosted by the **University of Minnesota Consortium on Law and Values**. Wednesday, March 2nd, 9:00am-1:30pm CST. For more information, [click here](#).
- ⇒ Virtual Conference hosted by the **National Student Bioethics Association**. Saturday, May 21, 2022, 8am-12pm. For more information, [click here](#).
- ⇒ **The Kennedy Institute of Ethics & The Pellegrino Center for Clinical Bioethics** Intensive Bioethics Course at Georgetown University, Washington DC, June 9-11, 2022. For more information, [click here](#).
- ⇒ The Hastings Center: [Upcoming Webinars and Events](#)

ONGOING

- ⇒ The Hastings Center: [Recent Webinars and Events](#)
- ⇒ American Journal of Bioethics: [YouTube channel](#) containing previous webinars
- ⇒ The MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics: [YouTube channel](#) containing previous lectures
- ⇒ Children's Mercy Kansas City: [Pediatric Ethics Podcast series](#) and [Webinars and Workshops](#)

BIOETHICS SERVICES AT THE UIHC

ETHICS CONSULT SERVICE

This service is a clinical resource for UI Health Care personnel who would like help addressing an ethical question or problem related to a patient's care. Consults can be ordered through EPIC or by paging the ethics consultant on call. For more information, [click here](#).



CLINICAL RESEARCH ETHICS SERVICE

We provide free consultation on ethical issues related to research design, tissue banking, genetic research results, informed consent, and working with vulnerable patient populations. In particular, we assist clinical investigators in identifying and addressing the ethical challenges that frequently arise when designing or conducting research with human subjects. These include ethical challenges in sampling design; randomized and placebo-controlled studies; participant recruitment and informed consent; return of individual-level research results; community engagement processes; and more. For more information, [click here](#).