

MCS 2 Selective Decision Making in the ICU

Decision Making in the ICU will be a seminar series for students who want to explore this topic through reading, discussion, class presentation and writing exercises. Topics include the use of critical care resources, setting goals of critical care intervention, communication about goals of care, and the costs of critical care. Appropriate for students interested in health care policy, critical care medicine (medical, surgical, pediatric, neurologic), geriatrics, end of life care, health care resource management.

Instructor



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Syllabus

Description: This seminar course will cover issues such as the use of critical care resources, defining the goals of critical care intervention, predicting long term outcome in the chronically critically ill, addressing futility of care and quality of life issues, the communal cost of critical care and the allocation of resources.

Other topics that will be covered include:

- 1 Goals of critical care: how do we judge appropriateness and effectiveness of interventions?
- 2 Decision making in the ICU: paternalism versus partnership
- 3 How much care is enough? Setting limits
- 4 Withdrawal and withholding of care. What is the difference?

Educational Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course you will have the ability to:

- 1 Describe the types of critical care and the types of patients who need it
- 2 Delineate the processes of goal setting
- 3 Communicate goals to non-health care personnel
- 4 Understand the limitations of providing critical care in our health care system
- 5 Explore the patient/family view point in terms of acute and chronic critical care and quality of life

Evaluation:

Class presentations and participation, Readings, Short writing assignments. Readings and class preparation must be done before class. Class participation will make up 50% of the grade; writing assignments will make up the other 50% of the grade. Attendance to all sessions is mandatory. A Pre-test and Post-test will be collected but not count towards the grade.

Additional Information:

PLEASE NOTE ALTERNATE TIMES
March 16- 12.30-2.30 pm

March 30, April 6, 13, May 4: 1-3 pm

Class Size

Minimum 6

Maximum 12