Medical Ethics at the End of Life

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The end of life is both a beautiful and fragile time. With the advances in modern medicine, complexities of care, dynamic social influences and medical-ethical conflicts often are revealed during this time. As such, it is critical to discuss the four principles of medical ethics and how they intersect most frequently at the end of life. Additionally, it is important to understand that these types of conflicts permeate more than just the patient and their family, and they may, in fact, present conflicts for healthcare providers. We will discuss tools to support the resolution of medical-ethical conflicts to achieve a peaceful end of life.

Following this presentation the participant will be able to:

• Know the four principles of medical ethics
• Learn common medical ethics concerns that present at the end of life
• Discuss the roles of healthcare professionals in both the escalation and de-escalation of medical ethical concerns
• Manage ethical conflicts when they present