BIOETHICS SEMINAR

October 10, 2018
4:10-5:30 pm
Health Sciences Building
155 College Street
Room 574
Toronto, ON

Can't make it in person? Join us online: https://jcb.adobeconnect.com/bioethicsseminars/

VOLUNTARY STOPPING EATING AND DRINKING [VSED]: ANOTHER EoL OPTION OR UNACCEPTABLE PRACTICE?

“VSED is a conscious, voluntary and deliberate decision by a capable person experiencing intolerable suffering from a serious medical condition to intentionally refrain from receiving food or fluids by mouth with the primary intention to relieve suffering by hastening death.”

VSED has attracted little research, few standards of practice, no Canadian statute law and minimal common law cases. In light of this vacuum, what should health care professionals do when VSED arises in their practice? Should physicians (and other HCPs) participate in treatment of a patient who chooses VSED? If so, to what extent? We will present cases to exemplify the common challenges.

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