



**Converging Roads Conference: Compassion for the Sick & Dying**  
**St John Paul II Foundation**  
**March 16, 2024**  
**Charlotte, NC**



**Accreditation** This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education ([ACCME](#)) through the joint providership of the Christian Medical & Dental Associations (CMDA) and St John Paul II Foundation. Christian Medical & Dental Associations is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

**Physician Credit** The Christian Medical & Dental Associations designates this educational activity for a maximum of **7 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)**<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Physician Assistant**

AAPA accepts certificates of participation for educational activities certified for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup> by an organization accredited by the ACCME or a recognized state medical society. **Physician assistants may receive up to 7 credits for completing this activity.**

**Nurse Practitioner**

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program (AANPCP) accepts *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*<sup>™</sup> from organizations accredited by the ACCME. Individuals are responsible for checking with the AANPCP for further guidelines.

**Nurse practitioners may receive up to 7 credits for completing this activity.**

**Nursing**

This nursing continuing professional development activity was approved by the Georgia Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. **Determination of credit is pending.**

**Objectives:**

- Define death and the present criteria for brain death.
- Differentiate between the different viewpoints regarding the definition of brain death from the present philosophical and medical literature.
- Discuss the present debate to revise the definition of whole-brain death.
- Examine case studies that are helpful in critically examining the current definition of brain death.
- Describe the unique Christian understanding of suffering, anthropology, and death.
- State the role of the sacraments and prayer as part of the essential pastoral care of the sick.
- Outline ways in which health care providers can support the administration of the sacraments and the offering of prayer as part of the pastoral care of the sick and dying.
- Describe how the ethical issues associated with the care of newborns and infant patients may differ from the same kind of care at other stages of life.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical issues associated with the care of newborns and infant patients.
- Consider best practices for communicating diagnoses with parents and caregivers and how to best offer support to families.
- Identify the ethical issues related to end-of-life care and evaluate the argumentation in favor of and against physician assisted suicide and euthanasia.
- Differentiate the criteria between proportionate and disproportionate care at the end of life.
- Discuss difficult situations related to end-of-life care such as artificial nutrition and hydration.
- Discuss the legal trends of physician-assisted suicide in the U.S. and North Carolina.
- List key legal developments that have affected care for human dignity and life.
- Identify ways in which the medical community can address physician-assisted suicide in their respective areas of medicine.
- Define discuss the criteria used to determine Quality-Adjusted Life Years (QALYs).
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- Discuss unique considerations of medical care for patients with disabilities and the elderly.
- Discuss growing concerns related to the rise of ableism in relation to quality of life.
- Describe how the physical resources and the medical condition of the patient impact the provision of food and water.
- Discuss the ethical implications of withholding and withdrawing foods and fluids from patients.
- Identify the key principles that guide decision-making when patients are no longer aggressively pursuing curative measures.
- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of advance directive documents for future medical needs.
- Describe how DNR and POLST impact the course of treatment and care offered to patients.

**Agenda**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>TOPIC TITLE</b>	<b>FACULTY NAME</b>	<b>CREDIT HRS.</b>
9:25 – 10:25 AM	Legal Trends in Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia	Silecchia, JD, Lucia A.	1.0 Hour
10:30 – 11:30 AM	Navigating the Boundaries Between Ordinary and Extraordinary Care	Rastrelli, MD, Deacon Alan	1.0 Hour
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM	Revisiting the Neurological Criteria for Brain Death	Accad, MD, Michel	1.0 Hour
1:15- 2:15 PM	Sacramental and Spiritual Care for the Sick and Dying	Catron, MDiv, MA, MS, Rev. Aaron Cory; Rastrelli, MD, Deacon Alan	1.0 Hour
2:40 – 3:40 PM	Ethical Concerns for Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly	Sullivan, MD, CCFP(COE), PhD, William	1.0 Hour
3:45 – 4:45 PM	Discerning Difficult Decisions at the End of Life	Schneider, LC, STL, Rev. Matthew P.	1.0 Hour
4:55 – 5:55 PM	Palliative and End of Life Care for Newborns and Infants	Clarke-Pounder, MD, FAAP, Jessica	1.0 Hour
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>7 Hours</b>

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**Disclosures**

Disclosures for all those in control of the content of this activity. The names of the ineligible companies (within the last 24 months) and the nature of the financial relationship(s). There is no minimum financial threshold. Disclosure of all financial relationships with ineligible companies regardless of the potential relevance of each relationship to the education.

**Activity Planners, Faculty and CMDA CE Review Committee**

No relevant financial relationships were identified for any individuals with the ability to control the content of this activity.

**ALL RELEVANT FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS WERE MITIGATED.**

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