

4.

THE ETHICS OF TREATMENT DECISIONS

This is a complex issue which will be decided upon in the local setting as per previous ethical frameworks.

We recommend that the ethical decision-making process be developed in anticipation of making complex decisions, rather than in reaction to the need to decide.

With regard to management of

the patient affected by COVID-19 in intensive care, we offer a number of references which will assist in developing the local ethical guidelines. (19, 25, 26, 27).

Other important publications (not included among references). These provide recommendations that can assist in developing local, though may be context specific.

Giacomo Grasselli, Antonio Pesenti, Maurizio Cecconi. Critical Care Utilization for the COVID-19 Outbreak in Lombardy,

Italy Early Experience and Forecast During an Emergency Response. JAMA published online March 2020.

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2763188>

Robert D. Truog, Christine Mitchell and George Q. Daley, Robert D. Truog., Christine Mitchell, George Q. Daley. The Toughest Triage — Allocating Ventilators in a Pandemic. This article was published on March 23, 2020, at NEJM.org.

<https://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJMp>

2005689?listPDF=true

Ethical Framework for Health Care Institutions Responding to Novel Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Guidelines for Institutional Ethics Services Responding to COVID-19 Managing Uncertainty, Safeguarding Communities, Guiding Practice Hastings Institute

<https://www.thehastingscenter.org/wpcontent/uploads/>

