



Additional Resources for Hard Call: The Electronic Heart

Episode Three

[Rise Above Heart Failure](#): Are you or a loved one experiencing heart failure and looking for help? The American Heart Association offers free, multilingual and downloadable resources regarding the symptoms, treatment and causes of heart failure as well as tips to living better. The site also provides links to community events and an online [support network](#).

Call the American Heart Association 24/7 for information on heart health and support groups at 1-800-242-8721.

[MyHealthFinder- Heart Health](#): Looking for resources on how to stay healthy? The US Department of Health and Human Service's Heart Health page offers tips on reducing risks of heart disease, healthy eating suggestions and conversation starters if you or a loved one have heart disease.

To learn more about end-of-life decision making:

- [Modern Death: How Medicine Changed the End of Life](#): Dr. Haider Warraich, a cardiology resident at the Duke Medical Center, delves into the universal conversation about death and dying. He provides readers with a discussion of death at the cellular level, up to the very definition of death itself, and presents an understanding of how medical trends and events have changed the most final of human experiences.
- [The Politics of Death](#): Jill Lepore, a professor of history at Harvard, discusses the history of end-of-life care, beginning with the Karen Quinlan case. In this 2009 New Yorker article, Lepore intertwines compelling storytelling, a discussion of politics, and a wealth of historical knowledge to illustrate the delicate nuances of end-of-life care.
- [When a Doctor and Patient Disagree About Care at the End of Life](#): Ravi Parikh, an internal medicine resident at Brigham and Women's Hospital, discusses what happens when physicians and patients disagree on end of life care. In this Washington Post article, Parikh emphasizes the importance of communication, and gives readers resources to start their own conversations.
- [Religious Groups' Views on End-of-Life Issues](#): This Pew Research Center article compiles accounts from religious leaders, scholars, and ethicists to summarize the religious beliefs of 16 varying religious groups in relation to end of life issues. [The Pew Research Center](#) also discusses the overall trends in end-of-life beliefs, including a discussion of religion, race, end-of-life planning, and personal wishes.



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- [Doctors' Religion Tied to End-of-Life Care](#): In this 2010 ABC News and MedPageToday article, Todd Neale and Lara Salahi present research that suggests that physicians' degree of religiosity significantly affects end-of-life decision making.
- [Does a Physician's Religious Beliefs Impact Patient Care?](#) In this Huffington Post article, Richard C. Senelick M.D. presents the prevalence of religious beliefs in physicians, as well as a list of questions to spark dialogue about personal values and religious beliefs in the context of end-of-life care.
- [Autonomy, Conscience, and Professional Obligation](#): AMA Journal of Ethics. 15(3) 244-248. By Robert D. Orr, M.D. Dr Orr, a specialist in clinical ethics, weighs the values of autonomy and personal conscience in the context of physician-patient relationships. While Dr. Orr emphasizes the fiduciary nature of physician-patient relationships, he also acknowledges the conscience of health professionals as individuals.
- [Ethical Analysis of Withdrawing Ventricular Assist Device Support](#) Mayo Clinic Proceedings. 2010. 85(9) 791-797. By Paul S. Mueller, MD, Keith M. Swetz, MD, Monica R. Freeman, LICSW, Kari A. Carter, RN, CNP, Mary Eliot Crowley, MA, Cathy J. Anderson Severson, RN, BSN, Soon J. Park, MD, and Daniel P. Sulmasy, MD, PhD. By analyzing medical records of VAD patients of Mayo Clinic, researchers concluded that patients have the right to refuse or request the withdrawal of any unwanted treatment, as they would with similarly life-sustaining treatments, such as hemodialysis, and mechanical ventilation.