Culturally Competent Care for Muslim Patients

Organization: Santa Clara University Markkula Center for Applied Ethics


This collection of reflections and case studies focuses on the challenges that can confront Muslims in American health care settings. Each fictional case study was developed based on personal interviews with doctors, nurses, social workers and chaplains and includes a commentary so that users can learn new skills and strategies to increase cultural competence. Each case study stresses the ways in which the provision of health care in these relatively typical U.S. clinical settings is, or is not, adequately culturally competent. The commentaries highlight what might have been done differently in each case to improve the quality of patient care. The final commentary for each case responds to the others from a non-Muslim and more explicitly Western bioethical perspective.

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