Breathe Easy: Facilitating Ethical Decisions About Noninvasive Ventilation (NIV) in Advanced Illness (FR450)

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Objectives

- Identify the ethical and legal constructs related to the provision and the discontinuation of NIV in advanced illness and at end of life.
- Describe the use of the Four Box model to facilitate decision-making related to NIV in a case discussion.

Making decisions regarding the use of life-sustaining therapies can be very difficult for patients with advanced illness and/or their surrogate decision makers. Clinicians are often asked to facilitate this decision-making process and express concerns about how to best counsel others. Decisions that are inconsistent with ethical principles may result in moral distress and untoward outcomes. This session will discuss the use of the Four Box model for facilitating ethical decision making. Although the method can be applied in many scenarios, the discussion will focus on decisions related to the use of noninvasive ventilation in advanced cardiac, pulmonary, and neuromuscular disease.