
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

November 1999

The GMC's Standards Committee has considered whether the Council should issue any guidance on cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which poses difficult issues for doctors and other healthcare workers.

The Committee has studied a statement on decisions relating to cardiopulmonary resuscitation, issued by the BMA and the Royal College of Nursing, in association with the Resuscitation Council (UK), last year. The Committee welcomed the emphasis given in the guidance to the involvement of patients in making decisions where they were able to do so, the need to take account of decisions made by the patient in a valid advance directive, and the importance of involving the whole healthcare team in decision-making.

The Committee concluded that further advice from the GMC was unnecessary, but that doctors' attention should be drawn to the helpful BMA/RCN statement, copies of which can be obtained from the BMA.

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