

Death by Neurological Criteria

Instructions for

An Online Educational Project of the Cleveland Clinic supported by grant from AOPO

Introduction

The Cleveland Clinic, with the support of a grant from the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO) has created a free online Portal to assist physicians in better diagnosing Death by Neurological Criteria. The portal provides access to the “**Death by Neurological Criteria**” (DNC) course, which explains how to properly assess evidence of cerebral function in unresponsive patients. The course outlines the accepted medical standards for determining DNC and details the elements included in the clinical examination.

The course provides the tools to effectively diagnose a patient dead by neurological criteria. It also offers information about how to properly discuss DNC with the families of these patients. The estimated time to complete the course is one hour.

Starting the Course

Using your web browser, insert <https://www.cchs.net/onlinelearning/cometvs10/dncPortal/default.htm>. You may want to bookmark or add this link to your “Favorites” in your web browser. If this is your first time using this course, click on the link on the right of the screen to “*Create New Account*”. When creating a new account, please answer all of the questions marked with a red asterisk. Use your email address for your User ID. The course requires the Adobe Flash player be installed on the computer. If you need to download and install Flash, go to <http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/> and follow the instructions or consult with your computer support person.

Upon completing the registration screen, you are returned to the DNC Portal home screen where you can click on the “*Log In*” button to begin the course. The first time you log in you will see an introduction box with some cautionary information, and then you will be at a “*Main Menu*” screen. You may need to look closely at this screen to find the link for “**Death by Neurological Criteria**” (you will find it indented under “**Neuroscience**” and then “**Cleveland Clinic**” in the middle of the page). Clicking on that link starts the course. The portion of the course is a pre-test. After the pre-test, follow the on-screen prompts to work your way through the educational course. You can stop at any time and come back to the course later by simply logging in again.

If you have questions about the course, please use the “Need Help” button on the Main Menu screen or Mark Paster (703-556-4242 ext. 207 or mpaster@aopo.org) at the AOPO office.

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