

Heart of the Matter: Ethics in Heart Transplant

Presenters Jennifer Townsend MMT, MT-BC; Deforia Lane PhD, MT-BC;
Budd Frazier, MD, Gerald Dolter, Director TT Opera Studios

Date Wednesday, April 4, 2018 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Credits 3

Abstract

The Opera Breath of Life is based on the work done by medical professionals and the experiences of families during heart transplant treatment. The Texas Tech Opera studio will perform scenes from the opera that highlights ethical considerations such as the examples listed below:

ACT I: Introduces all the relationships and exposes the challenges which must be overcome for the procedure to be successful.

- ♥ Sensitivity: decisions as to addressing the donor and the heart as objects instead of a human being and a soul/life, as well as a good "match" as more than the right blood type but what that means in human terms as a transfer or gift of human life.
- ♥ Cultural challenges: with the procedure of a heart transplant and in medical education from different countries.
- ♥ Religions: addressing moral and religious questions over the act of donation.
- ♥ Human Contact & Communication: Healthcare professionals and their human interaction with the patient, understanding the psychology of the patient and how that might impact their acceptance of or approach to the procedure and potential need for additional support.

Act II: This excerpt occurs during the surgery and highlights the results of some of the challenges presented in Act I.

- ♥ Protocol: In operating room if cultural sensitivities are not addressed.
- ♥ Faith: balance of faith in the people performing the procedure and of a higher power.
- ♥ Art of Medicine: Understanding the artful balance of weaning from the heart lung machine offering the new heart a chance to reconnect to the anatomy / and how to respond if things do not progress as planned.
- ♥ Medical Education: Significance of the Humanity and collective (or holistic) approach of Medicine and its implications to all involved.

A panel of experts including Deforia Lane and Dr Bud Frazier (world renowned heart surgeon) will respond to the performances and answer questions about ethical considerations displayed in the excerpts.

Statement of relationship

Heart of the Matter: Ethics in Heart Transplant is approved by the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT) for 3 Continuing Music Therapy Education credits. The Southwestern Region of the American Music Therapy Association, AP-055 maintains responsibility for program quality and adherence to CBMT policies and criteria.