Sepsis Management at the End of Life: Bioethical Issues

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Abstract: Sepsis management at the end of life is a topic not too discussed at a bioethical level. And yet there are many bioethical issues connected to it. Some have to do with socio-health issues related to the principle of justice (antibiotic resistance, development of new antibiotics), others with patient self-determination and access to medically assisted suicide, others still concern problems related to research in emergency medicine and informed consent. The aim of the article is to investigate all these issues, with an eye to the future and to possible new pandemics due to antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

Keywords: Sepsis, Septic shock, End of life, Bioethics, Self-determination.

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