



## Curriculum\*

Each session is 1-1.5 hour

Date	Topic
<b>Session 1</b>	<p><b>Introduction</b> <i>Rabbi Yaakov Glasser, David Mitzner Dean, Center for the Jewish Future, Yeshiva University, and Rabbi of the Young Israel of Passaic</i></p> <p><b>Rabbi Dr. David Shabtai</b></p>
<b>Session 1</b>	<p><b>Inside the Hospital, ER &amp; ICU: Understanding the Top Issues, Equipment, Terms and Staff *</b> <i>First hand explanation from a seasoned ER doctor on the medical aspects of the most recurring major cases that come through the ER, what is involved in treating them, the terms of common equipment and procedures, how a doctor makes decisions on a treatment plan or even non-treatment, for the different cases, who the main characters are on the medical staff that the rabbi will need to interact with, and what are some common halachic questions that come up.</i></p> <p><i>Will include video footage of the main equipment used in ER and how it works.</i></p> <p><b>Rabbi Dr. Aaron Glatt</b>, Assistant to the Rabbi at the Young Israel of Woodmere , Associate Rabbi at Congregation Anshei Chesed, and Chairman of Medicine at South Nassau Communities Hospital</p> <p><b>Rabbi Dr. Edward Reichman</b></p> <p><i>*note that this session will be 1.5 hours. The remaining sessions will be closer to 1 hr.</i></p>
<b>Session 2</b>	<p><b>Terminal Illness End of Life Issues: Panel Discussion</b> <i>Will deal with the end of life aspects unique to cancer and other terminal illness patients, understand the related treatments, procedures and medicines throughout these types of illnesses and using experimental medicines and what the Rabbi's role should be throughout treatment.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr. Robert Sidlow</b>, Head of the Division of Survivorship and Supportive Care, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</li> <li>• <b>Rabbi Mordechai Willig</b>, Rosh Yeshiva, RIETS, Yeshiva University, and Rabbi, Young Israel of Riverdale, NY</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Rabbi Dr. Elie Abadie</b>, Rabbi, Edmund J. Safra Synagogue, NYC</p>

<p><b>Session 3</b></p>	<p><b>Palliative Care, Hospice, DNR &amp; Withholding Treatment: Panel Discussion</b></p> <p><i>When to move someone to hospice and palliative care, when to resuscitate or not (especially if they signed DNR). Weighing the merits of providing comfort in the end of a person’s life vs. extending life with pain. What are the different types of Hospice and different type of common treatment plans (aggressive vs non-aggressive, palliative vs non palliative, treatment vs non treatment)?</i></p> <p><i>What if some family members want to pull the plug and others want to keep the family member alive?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr. Beth Popp</b>, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and Institutional Director Palliative Medicine Program Development and Associate Program Director, Hematology Oncology at Maimonides Medical Center at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY</li> <li>• <b>Rabbi Rachmiel Rothberger</b>, Jewish Community Liaison, Calvary Hospice and Palliative Care Hospital</li> <li>• <b>Rabbi Yaakov Neuburger</b>, Rosh Yeshiva, RIETS, Yeshiva University, and Rabbi, Congregation Beth Abraham, Bergenfield, NJ</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Rabbi Dr. Richard Weiss</b>, Rabbi, Young Israel of Hillcrest</p>
<p><b>Session 4</b></p>	<p><b>Pastoral Care at the End of Life</b></p> <p><i>What is the rabbi’s role in the pastoral care of the family at the end of life? How to help families prepare for the death and to speak with the individual about dying.</i></p> <p><i>To what degree should the different family members be there in the last days and moments of their relative’s life?</i></p> <p><i>Helping congregants understand and respect family and patients privacy.</i></p> <p><i>HIPPA and the rabbi’s role with doctors.</i></p> <p><i>How end of life pastoral care might be different in cases of traumatic tragedies (ex. car accidents, airplane crashes, murder, terrorist attacks, etc.)</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Norman Blumenthal</b>, Director of the OHEL Miriam Center for Trauma, Bereavement and Crisis Response (35-40 min)</p> <p><b>Spiritual Pastoral Care</b></p> <p><i>As Rabbi, how to help family process a terminal prognosis from a spiritual perspective.</i></p> <p><i>Dealing with questions of faith, How and when to offer prayer, spirituality, hope and support (to both the ill and family).</i></p> <p><b>Rabbi Dr. David Fox</b>, Clinical Psychologist; Director of Clinical Interventions and Community Education for Project CHAI, the Crisis, Trauma and Bereavement Department of Chai Lifeline; Rabbi of the Hancock Park Hashkama Minyan in Los Angeles (25 min)</p>
<p><b>Session 5</b></p>	<p><b>Children End of Life Issues: Terminal Illness, Hospice and Pastoral Care</b></p> <p><i>Addressing many of the same issues from session 2-4, yet noting the many differences as they apply to pediatric end of life care.</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Michael Harris</b>, Chief of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology at the Joseph M. Sanzari Children’s Hospital at Hackensack University Medical Center</p> <p><i>Different medical issues, treatments and decision making process for children (30 min)</i></p> <p><b>Rabbi Dr. Elimelech Goldberg</b>, Founder &amp; National Director of Kids Kicking Cancer &amp; Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Wayne State University School of Medicine</p> <p><i>Addressing the unique pastoral and emotional issues involved and what the rabbi’s role is (30 min)</i></p>

<p><b>Session 6</b></p>	<p><b>Mediating End of Life Decisions</b>  <i>How are decisions arrived at in the hospital? Who is involved and who is invited and not invited to these discussions? What are the roles of the patient himself or herself as well as family members (when the patient is both aware and when not)? What role do healthcare proxies play in these discussions? How are conflicting opinions dealt with? What is the role of the medical ethics committee? Who forms this committee? How are decisions arrived at and who makes them? What are the legal ramifications of ethics committee decisions? What happens when the patient or family disagrees? How do hospitals mediate these conflicts? What recourse do patients and families have if the hospital or the committee disagrees with their chosen course?</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Nancy Dubler</b>, Founder and former director, Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Division of Bioethics; Consultant for Ethics New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation &amp; Author of “<i>Bioethics Mediation: A Guide to Shaping Shared Solutions</i>” (40 min)</p> <p><b>What is the Rabbi’s Role in the End of Life Mediation?</b>  <b>Rabbi J. David Bleich</b>, Rosh Yeshiva, RIETS, Yeshiva University, and Rabbi, Congregation B'nai Jehuda The Yorkville Synagogue in NYC (20 min)</p>
<p><b>Session 7</b></p>	<p><b>Bikur Cholim</b>  <i>Visiting patients in isolation, how to speak to a patient with serious questions, how to deal with patients who do or don’t want visitors (both individuals or from the shul), how the rabbi can use technology to assist with Bikur Cholim.</i></p> <p><b>Rabbi Dr. Aaron Glatt</b> (30 minutes)</p> <p><b>Brain Death and Organ Donation: Halachically, Medically and Practically</b>  <i>Will give medical background on these different topics and discuss the different options from a medical and halachic perspective as well as the practical implication of the different opinions (ex. waiting certain amount of time vs imaging surveys to confirm death, etc.)</i></p> <p><b>Rabbi David Shabtai, MD</b> (30 minutes)</p>
<p><b>Session 8</b></p>	<p><b>Living Wills, Halachic Wills and Medical Proxies</b>  <i>What are the different legal mechanisms for these wills, how should they be set up, how to ensure the hospital and medical staff know, the importance of setting up a will in advance and how it can simplify distribution of the estate to the inheritors. Include samples of the different documents.</i></p> <p><b>Nathaniel Feller</b>, Council of Jankoff &amp; Gabe, P.C and former President of the White Shul in Far Rockaway  <i>The legal aspects</i> (20-25 min)</p> <p><b>Rabbi Dr. Aaron Glatt</b>  <i>The medical and halachic aspects</i> (25 minutes)</p> <p><b>Rabbi Elchanan Zohn</b>, President of The National Association of Chevra Kadisha, NASCK (15-20 min)  <i>Will deal with his EMES program, how it accomplishes the above, how to implement in your community.</i></p>

**Session 9**

**Dementia**

*Jewish approaches to treating and relating to those whose mind may be suffering or gone but body may still be functioning for several years. (20-25 minutes)*

**Dr. Hindi Mermelstein**, Geriatric Psychiatrist, Great Neck, NY

**Emotional Impact on the Rabbi in Dealing with End of Life Issues**

*How it can effect a rabbi and what the rabbi can do to alleviate the emotional strain it can put on him.*

**Zahava Farbman, LMSW**, Associate Director of Project Chai, the Crisis Intervention, Trauma and Bereavement Department of Chai Lifeline (25 minutes)

**The Importance of the Rabbi's Role at the End of People's Lives**

**Rabbi Dr. Jacob J. Schacter**, University Professor of Jewish History and Jewish Thought and Senior Scholar at the Center for the Jewish Future, Yeshiva University (15 minutes)