

# Managing Brain Death in the ICU

## PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

Certification of brain death is a complex and time consuming multi-step process with many potential pitfalls and confounders. It is also an important responsibility shouldered by clinicians working in intensive care units.

Families and loved ones are often overwhelmed by having to deal with the suddenness of the devastating neurologic injury, understanding the concept of brain death and coming to terms with its consequences, including the withdrawal of therapy or potential organ donation.

This programme has been put together by Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH), and supported by NHG College, to help Intensive Care Unit (ICU) clinicians deal with these complex issues when managing potentially brain-dead patients.



**DURATION: 1 DAY**

## PROGRAMME CONTENT

This programme comprises the following learning topics:

- Deceased Organ Donation – Why is it Important
- Difficult conversations, Role of MSW and Transplant Coordinator (Case Discussion)
- Certifying BD and Management of Multi-Organ Donor (Case Discussion)
- DCD Program in Singapore

## TARGET AUDIENCE



Intensivists, Senior ICU Nurses and ICU Nursing Officers, Hospital BD Case Managers & Coordinators, and ICU Medical Social Workers

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the programme, participants will be able to:

- Be familiar with importance of organ donation in Singapore, the legal aspects and Human Organ Transplant Act
- Handle end of life discussions and organ donation issue
- Understand the roles of Brain Death, and Donor & Transplant Coordinators
- Be familiar with pitfalls to avoid when certifying brain death
- Understand patients' families' responses to brain death and organ donation and how to support them
- Handle difficult conversations and establish understanding of brain death and organ donation in donor families
- Be familiar with key considerations when conversing with families in acute grief and manage their grief reactions
- Be familiar with management of the multi-organ donor

## METHODOLOGY

This programme is designed to be an interactive learning experience for participants. Methodologies used will include:



Group and class discussion



Didactic lectures



Video screening



Question and Answer session



Pre-reading

## TRAINING CAPACITY

50 participants per run

## ABOUT THE ORGANISER

Officially established on 19 July 2002, the NHG College plays an instrumental role in facilitating the continuous learning and development of our workforce, as well as, promoting systems improvement and driving leadership development in NHG Health. NHG College collaborates with renowned institutions and industry partners to build the pipeline and collective capacities of our leaders, educators, healthcare professionals and staff to support NHG Health in serving and managing the health of our patients and the population.

For enquiries on Continuing of Clinical Education courses, please visit our website by scanning the QR code below or email us at: [nhggroup.college@nhghealth.com.sg](mailto:nhggroup.college@nhghealth.com.sg).

