

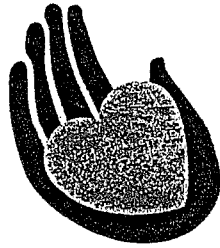


HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES  
NURSING DEPARTMENT



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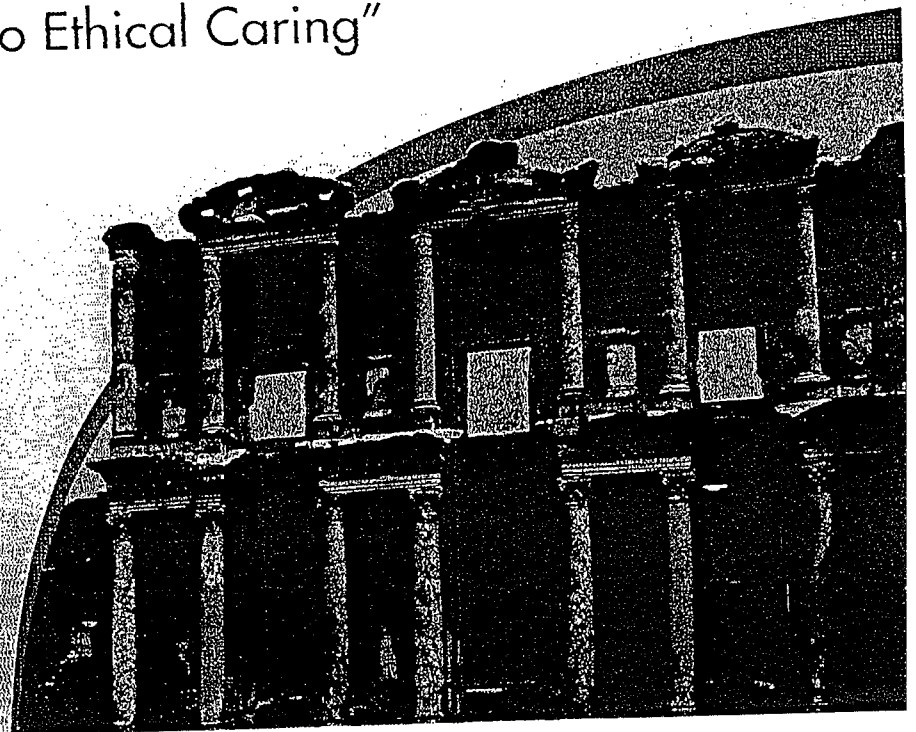
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## Approaches of Nursing Students to The Ethical Issues Regarding End of Life Care

Rana Can<sup>1</sup>, Selim Kadioğlu<sup>2</sup>, Melike Öztürk<sup>2</sup>, Oya Ögenler<sup>3</sup>, Gülay Halidi<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Nursing Department, Health School, Mustafa Kemal University, Hatay-Turkey

<sup>2</sup>Department of Medical Ethics, Medical Faculty, Çukurova University, Adana-Turkey

<sup>3</sup>Department of Medical Ethics, Medical Faculty, Mersin University, Mersin-Turkey

**Objective:** The purpose of this study is to determine approaches of nursing students, who are about to complete their education, in relation to the ethical issues regarding end of life care.

**Materials-Methods:** The participants of the study are 188 last grade nursing students attending three different nursing schools located in the eastern Mediterranean region of Turkey. Candidates of participant were informed regarding the study and only those who volunteered to participate and answered all the questions were included in the survey. The data collection form prepared by the researchers included 13 statements. The participants were asked to indicate their views regarding these statements on a three point Likert scale.

**Results:** Giving the DNR order by patients themselves is approved by 38.8% and by patients' relatives is approved by 37.2% of participants. Not resuscitate as a right of medical team is accepted by 18.6%. The percentages of supporters and opponents of euthanasia and those who can not decide are close (34.0%-29.8%-36.2%). According to the opinion of 47.3%, there is no principal difference between active and passive euthanasia. Of the participants, 69.1% approve treatment refusal as a patient right and 82.4% consider that ideal approach to the users of this right is to inform them more only and not to try to persuade. Giving priority to the end of life care patients is supported by 52.1% and 53.2% are against neglecting of them. Although 85.6% of participants consider that monitoring patient is prominent, 47.3% are not sure about the invasive supportive care that disturbs patients.

**Conclusion:** It is possible to say that generally accepted approaches of contemporary medical ethics are highly adopted by participants. Their point of view seems also influenced by the traditional culture of Turkish society.

**Keywords:** Nursing ethics, Terminal care, Clinical bioethics