Cultural Humility

Family Medicine Conference

June 6, 2024

The Case Study

7 year-old Amish Female presents to ED with 25% TBSA (Total body surface area burns) second and third degree burns to head, bilateral upper extremities and bilateral lower extremities after a barn fire. Intubated and Admitted to the pediatric ICU. Discussions about management including skin grafting was held with the family including father, mother and grandfather.

Father and grandfather immediately voiced disagreement with skin grafting. Family asked for the Attending (Dr. Tandoh) to meet with the Amish community burn specialist. At the same time the senior Attending was updated on the case, and she recommended that Dr. Tandoh go through DCF (Department of Children and Family Services) and obtain a court order to proceed with the skin grafting. As per protocol, DCF is always referred when a pediatric burn case presents to ED.

If you were the Attending, how would you proceed?

Case Activity

In small groups of 6/7 discuss the case and make a list of the issues and ideas for addressing the issues. Assign a reporter who will share back group responses to the following questions:

* What may be personal, team and/or institutional biases?
* What steps can be taken that incorporate culturally sensitive care?