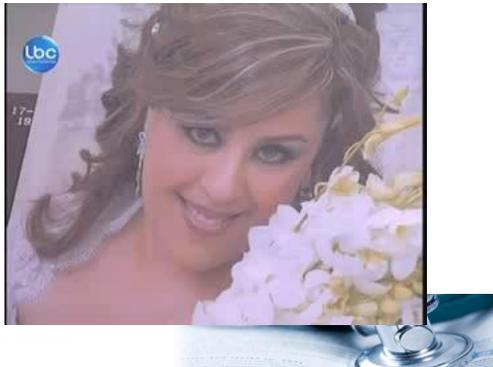


The practice of Medicine is an Art..



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Story of Rita Jibrail 2''7'



Catching words...

- The patient's family: their views and perceptions of the events. Their understanding of what happened, of how, if at all, the medical situation was taken care of
- "I want them to tell me the truth regarding how she died."
- "I want them to admit negligence. This is all I want".



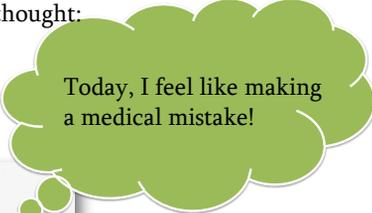
Med Mal.. In Lebanon??

- The media exacerbates issues, though most of the times, only to make the headlines.
- To say "NO" is denial
- Denying leads to us doing nothing, to holes remaining undetected, to the problem becoming bigger, and to bad patient outcome.



How do mistakes happen?

- No physician wakes up in the morning with the following thought:



Silent anguish of healers

- A gut feeling as to what is the *humane* thing to do
- The *right* thing to do
- The *legal* thing to do
- MORAL WISDOM and *Phronesis*



It ends up being about getting the job done, not about the patient



By not telling.. Am I an accomplice?

The third day of my internship in internal medicine in Holland, I went with an 80-year-old patient who needed a colonoscopy. During the procedure it became obvious that the scope could only penetrate the colon with great difficulty. The colon was very weak and the sides of the intestine made penetration difficult. The patient was in a great deal of pain and became very restless. He was given more anesthetic and the scope was tried several more times but the scope did not penetrate the colon far enough. After about half an hour the nursing staff thought the test should be stopped because the scope was not going into the colon. However, the physician wanted to continue. After another try the staff again told the physician to stop. Nevertheless, he continued. Suddenly the patient's abdomen became very hard, his eyes rolled back in his head. The scope showed a perforation on the monitor and the patient's heart had stopped. Resuscitation was attempted but without result. The patient's wife was called and told that her husband had died during the test. She was not informed of the perforation.



Two "shoulds" are clear to me: the physician should have stopped the procedure and the family should have been told about the specifics of the patient's death. By not telling am I an accomplice, not legally but morally?



Residents experience MORAL DISTRESS

- Residents are *physicians in training*. Attendings play a role in shaping their moral compass
- This is NOT about a culture of whistleblowing
- The IC and role modeling
- The HC

AUBMC

- When we say our lives are dedicated to yours.. and mean it

We need to act the only way the profession of medicine expects us to act: *face it, deal with it, learn from it, and make changes.*

AUBMC

- When we say our lives are dedicated to yours.. and mean it

Create a national electronic system/forums so that all hospitals learn from each others mistakes
Etc.

Oh well (house) 33”

