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Vegetative and minimally conscious states: diagnosis, management and end-of-life decisions to inform clinical and legal practice

Monday 18 November 2019

Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrews Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4LE
Programme organiser: Professor Lynne Turner-Stokes, King's College London

09.30 Registration and coffee

09.55 **Welcome and opening remarks**

Dr Krystyna Walton, president, British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine

Session 1: Introduction

Chair: Dr Krystyna Walton, president, British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine

10.00 **Introduction and overview of the updated RCP guidelines**

Professor Lynne Turner-Stokes, King's College London

10.20 **Diagnosis and management of prolonged disorders of consciousness**

Professor Diane Playford, Warwick University

10.40 **Changes in the law**

Alex Ruck Keene, 39 Essex Chambers

11.00 Coffee

Session 2: Managing uncertainty and prognosis

Chair: Dr John Chisholm CBE, chair, BMA Medical Ethics Committee

11.30 **Management of devastating brain injury in the acute setting – treatment escalation planning**

Dr Chris Danbury, Royal Berkshire Hospital

12.00 **Brain injury in older people**

Dr Shuli Levy, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

12.30 **Procedures to replace court application for CANH withdrawal**

Veronica English, British Medical Association

13.00 Lunch

Session 3: Practical best interests decision-making

Chair: Dr Judith Allanson, Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

14.00 How to do it: best interest decision making in clinical practice

Dr Andrew Hanrahan, Royal Hospital for Neurodisability

14.30 Involving the family and advance care planning

Professor Jenny Kitinger, Coma and Disorders of Consciousness Research Centre and Cardiff University

15.00 Tea

Session 4: End of life care

Chair: Professor Rob George, St Christopher's Hospice and King's College London

15.30 How to do it: providing a second opinion

Professor Derick Wade, Oxford Brookes University

16.00 Palliative care following withdrawal of life sustaining treatment

Professor Lynne Turner-Stokes, King's College London

16.30 Closing remarks by the chair

16.45 Close of conference