

Death and Dying: The Incompetent Patient **Study/Discussion Questions**

- look at and be prepared to discuss all the case studies in this chapter
- why, for incompetent patients, is the issue of death/dying one of “moral chaos”?
- what issues surround patients who were “formerly competent”?
 - what kind of directives can they have provided?
 - explain the differences
- what is the “principle of autonomy extended”?
 - how does it work
- how does the “principle of autonomy extended” go to the heart of questioning what the self (the “me/I”) is?
- what does it mean to be “terminally ill”?
- what are some issues that should be addressed in an advance directive?
- what issues surround patients who were “never competent”?
 - does the principle of autonomy apply?
 - does the Hippocratic oath apply?
 - who should be the surrogate?
- in what ways is the never-competent patient particularly vulnerable?
- what is the standard underlying family discretion?
- back to Yusef...
 - what options can you see at this point?