

Risks and the relief of suffering

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Discussions of risk can be confusing to patients who are faced with difficult decisions at a time of heightened emotional intensity. Clinicians can relieve or exacerbate the suffering of patients and their families or whanau at this time. Strategies that are more likely to result in relief of suffering will be discussed. These include practical tips for changing theoretical risk into hope-enhancing interventions, whether surgical or not. There is a risk you will leave this presentation with some new skills and ideas.