

are generally useful. He is right that “it is worth writing [a living will] to provide guidance to surrogate decision-makers” and, I would add, health care providers.

Ney disagrees with my position, labelling it “opinion not based in fact.” The removal of artificial nutrition and hydration from patients evokes strong reactions because people have differing values. Some believe that one has an obligation to preserve life. Others, perhaps the majority of Canadians, believe that an individual’s right of privacy is more important. I have written elsewhere that the values of those with religious or cultural reasons to preserve life in a persistent vegetative state ought to

be respected.² But tolerance is a 2-way street. Terri Schiavo did not share the conservative Catholic views of her parents and told her husband “I don’t want to be kept alive on a machine.” Terri Schiavo’s values and choices are just as worthy of respect as those who would choose differently for themselves.

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REFERENCES

1. Weijer C. A death in the family: Reflections on the

Terri Schiavo case [editorial]. *CMAJ* 2005;172(9):1197-8.

2. Weijer C. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation for patients in a persistent vegetative state: Futile or acceptable? [editorial]. *CMAJ* 1998;158:491-3.

DOI:10.1503/cmaj.1050175

Corrections

In a news brief¹ about the new *Canadian Cardiovascular Atlas*, the online link is incorrectly stated. It should be www.ccourt.ca. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

REFERENCE

1. Sibbald B. News @ a glance. *CMAJ* 2006;175(3):237.

DOI:10.1503/cmaj.061070

In a recent *Clinical Vistas Brief*,¹ the title of the article was changed in error from Dextrocardia with situs solitus to Dextrocardia with sinus solitus. We apologize for our mistake.

REFERENCE

1. Leung AKC, Robson WLM. Dextrocardia with situs solitus. *CMAJ* 2006;175(3):244.

DOI:10.1503/cmaj.061071

In a recent *Clinical Vista*,¹ one of the authors’ names was spelled incorrectly. The correct spelling is Alyson Shaw. We regret the error.

REFERENCE

1. Albedwawi S, LeBlanc C, Show A, Slinger RW. A teenager with fever, rash and arthritis. *CMAJ* 2006;175(4):354.

DOI:10.1503/cmaj.061083

Letters submission process

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