

The journal relates to the course materials by explaining a terrible situation that was by no means easy for the hospital and family to make. Ashley learned in class about the uniform determination of death act when a person's brain loses response to central pain, loss of pupillary reflex, and an EEG is performed to show no electrical activity. In the case of Jahi McMath, she was declared dead in the Oakland Children's hospital after she had a complex pharyngeal surgery (Truog, 2018).

Concepts that Ashley could master quickly in class would include advanced directives, living will health care power of attorney, and do not resuscitate or allow natural death. These terms were very familiar to Ashley since she works in the healthcare field in a nursing home where these terms are used quite often. As a staff member in this world, a person gets very familiar with them and what they mean and determine in the nursing home.

A concept that Ashley had issues being able to understand was the uniform determination of the death act. Ashley did not know they had an act that was able to determine brain death. Ashley knew a person could have tests performed to show if they had brain activity or not, but not to the point they had only a day or two to decide if they wanted to pull the plug or not. Ashley did not know that New Jersey was one of the states that had the action to where they did not acknowledge to pull the plug on a person just because they were considered brain death (Truog, 2018).

Ashley was most proud that she could learn something new that she had no idea even existed.

Ashley has learned this week that she is a strong person, and even when something does not look like the best way to go, always go with the gut feeling.

Reference:

Truog, R. D. (2018). *Lessons from the Case of Jahi McMath*. Hastings Center Report, 48, S-70-S73. <https://doi.org/10.1002/hast.961>.