DECISION MAKING IN SURGERY

In psychology, decision-making (also spelled decision making and decisionmaking) is regarded as the cognitive process resulting in the selection of a belief or a course of action among several possible alternative options. It could be either rational or irrational. The decision-making process is a reasoning process based on assumptions of values, preferences and beliefs of the decision-maker. Every decision-making process produces a final choice, which may or may not prompt action.

Decision in surgery divided into rapid and prompt decision which is required in emergency conditions. In bullet or stab injuries, the decision of surgery is straightforward. In equivocal cases, the situation is more complex especially when you don’t have enough history or inadequate diagnostic facilities with query signs and symptoms. In this situation, surgeons’ clinical scientific background, experience, and index of suspicion play major roles.

In elective cases with the presence of diagnostic facilities, the situation is little bit easier but still, surgeons’ scientific background and experience play important roles. For example, an elderly patient with total frank painless hematuria with negative routine investigations and ultrasound should be subjected for urine cytology and CT urography especially if he has risk factors. Guidelines are also important in clinical practice and partly eliminates mistakes in management.

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