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**Ethical considerations in NLS and limits of viability****Jellila Khatib Ait Abderrahim and Antonio Pardo**  
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**Aim:** To evaluate the limit of fetal viability by exploring the ethical considerations in neonatal resuscitation (Neonatal Life Support NLS)

**Method:** Initial Synthesis of ethical concepts as applied to neonatology. Followed by a systematic review of peer-reviewed journals and/ or standard guidelines. Several European/N. American Countries were reviewed as case studies: England (UK), France, Belgium, Spain, Italy, United States and Canada.

**Results:** Taking into account all ethical consideration the general consensus is that the limit of viability are between 23-24 weeks gestation. The results are shown in a table format to give an overview of practices in the various countries studied.

**Conclusion:** We concluded that the most important ethical considerations are informed consent, overtreatment concerns (whether it is adequate to start and stop NLS). As well as ethical

implications of limit of viability. Others concerns discovered are quality of life, economic considerations, therapeutic futility and physical suffering. In addition were able to set the limit of viability at 23-24 weeks. Recent research have found the birth weight and maturity in determining lower the limits of viability to 22 weeks in some instance, namely in Canada and the US.

**Speaker Biography**

Jellila Khatib Ait Abderrahim was born in Palma de Mallorca-Isles Balears-Spain to Algerian (kabyli) parents. Her family is based in Madrid, Spain. She studied her undergraduate degree between Madrid and San Francisco, where she gained admission to the pre-medical at the University of San Francisco. Here it was her goal to work in pediatrics. While studying for her BS in Biology, her interest were in healthy policy and neuroscience. After working several years in the UK, she achieved her MS. Bioethics and a tesina on Ethical Considerations in NLS & Limits of Viability. Her postgraduate work is on Hospital Systems and focuses on finding ways innovative to improve healthcare, notably in child health services.

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