

## ethikos Volume 34, Number 5. May 01, 2020 Who gets treated? The ethics of a health crisis

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Doctors around the world are facing choices that no one wants to make.<sup>[1]</sup> As healthcare facilities run out of beds, supplies, ventilators, and drugs, doctors must “triage”—a term coined during the Napoleonic era that describes the process of separating patients and allocating treatment to them according to criteria such as seriousness of the injury and even life expectancy if they were to survive.

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