

BIOETHICS & HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER



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WELCOME...

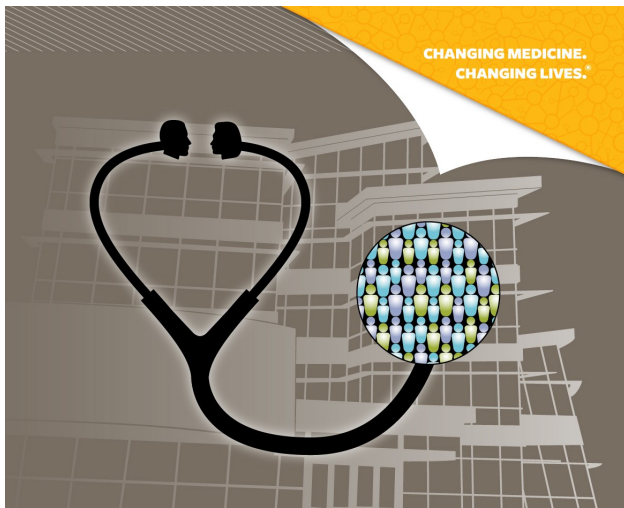
Welcome to the monthly Bioethics and Humanities Newsletter provided by the Program in Bioethics and Humanities at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

Program in Bioethics and Humanities: *Our Mission*

We are committed to helping healthcare professionals explore and understand the increasingly complex ethical questions that have been brought on by advances in medical technology and the health care system. We achieve this through education, research, and service within the Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa Health Care, University of Iowa, and the wider Iowa community.

[More Details About
The Program](#)

— SAVE —
THE DATE



5th Annual Ethics in Healthcare Conference



Friday, May 19, 2023

We are excited to announce that after a three-year pause the Ethics in Healthcare Conference will return in 2023!

About the Conference:

With the steady introduction of more treatment options and biotechnologies, an increasing number and range of ethical challenges in health care are emerging. This conference is designed to help professionals meet these challenges through their work as clinicians, members of ethics committees or ethics consult teams, and administrators.

This one-day conference for collaborative dialogue and inter-professional exchange seeks to provide up-to-date information in healthcare ethics relevant to clinical practice; provide approaches to ethical reasoning that clarify ethical problems; facilitate professional discussion of ethical challenges and decision making in healthcare; and encourage professional networking for ongoing dialogue, support, and collaboration.

Additional information will be coming in the next few months.

BIOETHICS TOPIC OF THE MONTH:

DECISION MAKING IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS

Key Articles and Resources

- ⇒ Appelbaum PS. Clinical practice. Assessment of patients' competence to consent to treatment. [N Engl J Med](#). 2007 Nov 1; 357: 1834-1840.
- ⇒ Brudney D, Lantos JD. Whose interests count? [Pediatrics](#). 2014 Oct; 134 Suppl 2: S78-80.
- ⇒ Hein IM, De Vries MC, Troost PW, et al. Informed consent instead of assent is appropriate in children from the age of twelve: Policy implications of new findings on children's competence to consent to clinical research. [BMC Med Ethics](#). 2015 Nov 9; 16: 76.
- ⇒ Kon AA, Morrison W. Shared decision-making in pediatric practice: A broad view. [Pediatrics](#). 2018 Nov; 142: S129-s132.
- ⇒ Lang A, Paquette ET. Involving minors in medical decision making: Understanding ethical issues in assent and refusal of care by minors. [Semin Neurol](#). 2018 Oct; 38: 533-538.
- ⇒ Rhodes R, Holzman IR. Is the best interest standard good for pediatrics? [Pediatrics](#). 2014 Oct; 134 Suppl 2: S121-129.
- ⇒ Small PM. Improving collaborative decision-making in the pediatric setting. [AACN Adv Crit Care](#). 2019 Summer; 30: 189-192.



HUMANITIES CORNER

This month's spotlight is on **Erin Sullivan, a fourth year medical student**. Her creative work is a painting and a written reflection. She completed this creative work as part of the *Ethics and Humanities Sub-Internship Seminar*. During this Seminar students are asked to complete a reflective written or creative work that responds to a situation they encountered during their sub-internship that illustrated values in ethics, professionalism, or humanism.



I saw my first code while on medicine during core year. The image that has really stuck with me over a year later is the way the chest wall deformed during compressions. I carry that memory with me to every code status discussion I have had since. This painting is a representation of that mental image. My first code experience shaped the way I see code status discussions. The patient was in his upper 80s, had many chronic illnesses, was frail, and was in the ICU. I was not present for his code status decision, but watching his body be mutilated by CPR, watching him regain consciousness twice before he ultimately died, I couldn't help but think we were doing more harm than good. I wondered how someone could possibly have agreed to this. I see "getting the code status" as getting informed consent for the patient to either receive CPR or to not receive CPR. The majority of discussions I've seen have lacked significantly in giving the patient or decision maker information regarding the risks of CPR and likelihood of outcomes (e.g. discharging from the hospital). Usually, the risks and outcomes are only divulged if a patient or decision maker is unsure or asks for more information, but I believe this information should always be included in this discussion regardless. This experience exposed me to the violence of chest compressions and the traumatic outcomes that can happen when frail, elderly individuals receive CPR. I am not arguing that anyone over 75 be DNR automatically with no choice in the matter. However, I do think that we owe it to our patients to give everyone that comes into the hospital a high quality informed consent discussion in the hopes that more people can make a well-informed decision that is best for them as a whole person.

BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE

- ⇒ Bicket MC, Waljee J, Hilliard P. Nonopioid directives: Unintended consequences in the operating room. [JAMA Health Forum](#). 2022 Jun 3; 3: e221356.
- ⇒ Brakebill A, Fendrick AM, Kullgren JT. How might patients and physicians use transparent health care prices to guide decisions and improve health care affordability? [AMA J Ethics](#). 2022 Nov 1; 24: E1034-1039.
- ⇒ Chadwick R. Everyday ethics and disasters. [Bioethics](#). 2022 Nov; 36: 901.
- ⇒ DeBortoli E, Soyer HP, Milne D, et al. Measurable outcomes of consumer engagement in health research: A scoping review. [Front Public Health](#). 2022; 10: 994547.
- ⇒ Denier Y, Gastmans C. Relational autonomy, vulnerability and embodied dignity as normative foundations of dignified dementia care. [J Med Ethics](#). 2022 Nov 11. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Ekkel MR, Depla M, Verschuur EML, et al. Patient perspectives on advance euthanasia directives in Huntington's disease. A qualitative interview study. [BMC Med Ethics](#). 2022 Oct 10; 23: 101.
- ⇒ Emanuel EJ, Upshur REG, Smith MJ. What covid has taught the world about ethics. [N Engl J Med](#). 2022 Oct 27; 387: 1542-1545.
- ⇒ Fanaroff JM. Baby doe at 40! Neonatologist legal and ethical opinion changes over time. [Pediatr Res](#). 2022 Oct; 92: 921-922.
- ⇒ Gillam L, Spriggs M, McCarthy M, et al. Telling the truth to seriously ill children: Considering children's interests when parents veto telling the truth. [Bioethics](#). 2022 Sep; 36: 765-773.
- ⇒ Goitein L. My loved one is in the intensive care unit-what should i know? [JAMA Intern Med](#). 2022 Nov 1; 182: 1235.
- ⇒ Han S, Min H, Kim S. NICU nurses' moral distress surrounding the deaths of infants. [Nurs Ethics](#). 2022 Oct 31. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Hoffman S. Privacy and security - protecting patients' health information. [N Engl J Med](#). 2022 Nov 24; 387: 1913-1916.



BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE (CONTINUED)

- ⇒ Klein A, Golub SA. Ethical HIV research with transgender and non-binary communities in the United States. [J Int AIDS Soc](#). 2022 Oct; 25 Suppl 5: e25971.
- ⇒ Klitzman R. Needs to address clinicians' moral distress in treating unvaccinated covid-19 patients. [BMC Med Ethics](#). 2022 Nov 14; 23: 110.
- ⇒ Mooney-Doyle K, Mendola A, Naumann WC, et al. Social determinants of comfort: A new way of conceptualizing pediatric end-of-life care. [Journal of Hospice & Palliative Nursing](#). 2022; 24: 305-311.
- ⇒ Navin MC, Brummett AL, Wasserman JA. Three kinds of decision-making capacity for refusing medical interventions. [Am J Bioeth](#). 2022 Nov; 22: 73-83.
- ⇒ Qama E, Diviani N, Grignoli N, et al. Health professionals' view on the role of hope and communication challenges with patients in palliative care: A systematic narrative review. [Patient Educ Couns](#). 2022 Jun; 105: 1470-1487.

“Are the existing theories that explain hope only from patients' experience really relevant for HPs' own interpretation?... More concretely, matters to consider are attitudes triggered by death anxiety, health professionals' spiritual beliefs, or the uncertainty related to the trajectory of certain diseases, and if they shape health professionals' own concept of hope.”

(Qama et al)

- ⇒ Schaare D, Ward LD, Boccuto L. Incidental findings in study participants: What is the researcher's obligation? [Genes \(Basel\)](#). 2022 Sep 22; 13.
- ⇒ Steel R, Wendler D. Distinguishing appropriate from inappropriate conditions on research participation. [Bioethics](#). 2022 Oct 21. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Studdert DM, Hall MA. Medical malpractice law - doctrine and dynamics. [N Engl J Med](#). 2022 Oct 27; 387: 1533-1537.
- ⇒ Syltern J, Ursin L, Solberg B, et al. Postponed withholding: Balanced decision-making at the margins of viability. [Am J Bioeth](#). 2022 Nov; 22: 15-26.
- ⇒ Terman SA, Steinberg KE, Hinerman N. Flaws in advance directives that request withdrawing assisted feeding in late-stage dementia may cause premature or prolonged dying. [BMC Med Ethics](#). 2022 Oct 6; 23: 100.
- ⇒ Zhang AD, Anderson TS. Comparison of industry payments to physicians and advanced practice clinicians. [JAMA](#). 2022 Oct 31. [Epub ahead of print]

BIOETHICS IN THE NEWS

- ⇒ HIV prevention: New injection could boost the fight, but some hurdles remain. [The Conversation](#), November 28, 2022.
- ⇒ He woke up from eye surgery with a gash on his forehead. What happened? [NPR](#), November 28, 2022.
- ⇒ Research helps seniors make informed decisions about risks, benefits of major surgery. [CNN](#), November 25, 2023.
- ⇒ What is ethical animal research? A scientist and veterinarian explain. [The Conversation](#), November 23, 2022.
- ⇒ Doctors who want to defy abortion laws say it's too risky. [NPR](#), November 23, 2022.
- ⇒ Halting rising violence against health care workers. [The Harvard Gazette](#), November 18, 2022.
- ⇒ In country after country, primary care doctors report high burnout and degraded patient care. [STAT News](#), November 17, 2022.
- ⇒ Do you really want to read what your doctor writes about you? [The Atlantic](#), November 15, 2022.
- ⇒ Trying to quit my job as an ER doctor gave me reasons to stay. [STAT News](#), November 7, 2022.
- ⇒ Death in US gene therapy study sparks search for answers. [Associated Press](#), November 4, 2022.



BIOETHICS OPPORTUNITIES

UPCOMING

- ⇒ The Hastings Center: [Upcoming Webinars and Events](#)
- ⇒ Michigan State University: [2022-2023 Bioethics Public Seminar Series](#)

ONGOING

- ⇒ The Hastings Center: [Recent Webinars and Events](#)
- ⇒ American Journal of Bioethics: [YouTube channel](#) containing previous webinars
- ⇒ The MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics: [YouTube channel](#) containing previous lectures
- ⇒ Children's Mercy Kansas City: [Pediatric Ethics Podcast series](#) and [Webinars and Workshops](#)
- ⇒ Office for Human Research Protections [Luminaries Lecture Series](#)

BIOETHICS SERVICES AT THE UIHC

ETHICS CONSULT SERVICE

This service is a clinical resource for UI Health Care personnel who would like help addressing an ethical question or problem related to a patient's care. Consults can be ordered through EPIC or by paging the ethics consultant on call. For more information, [click here](#).



CLINICAL RESEARCH ETHICS SERVICE

We provide free consultation on ethical issues related to research design, tissue banking, genetic research results, informed consent, and working with vulnerable patient populations. In particular, we assist clinical investigators in identifying and addressing the ethical challenges that frequently arise when designing or conducting research with human subjects. These include ethical challenges in sampling design; randomized and placebo-controlled studies; participant recruitment and informed consent; return of individual-level research results; community engagement processes; and more. For more information, [click here](#).