

# 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](#)

# BIOETHICS TOPIC OF THE MONTH:

## ETHICS IN INTENSIVE CARE

### Key References and Resources

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- ⇒ Zier LS, Burack JH, Micco G, et al. Doubt and belief in physicians' ability to prognosticate during critical illness: The perspective of surrogate decision makers. [Crit Care Med](#). 2008 Aug; 36: 2341-2347.

Table 1. Ten most important needs of families of critically ill dying patients

To be with the person  
To be helpful to the dying person  
To be informed of the dying person's changing condition  
To understand what is being done to the patient and why  
To be assured of the patient's comfort  
To be comforted  
To ventilate emotions  
To be assured that their decisions were right  
To find meaning in the dying of their loved one  
To be fed, hydrated, and rested

Truog et al. [Crit Care Med](#). 2001; 29: 2332-2348.

# BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE

- ⇒ Blout Zawatsky CL, Shah N, Machini K, et al. Returning actionable genomic results in a research biobank: Analytic validity, clinical implementation, and resource utilization. [Am J Hum Genet](#). 2021 Dec 2; 108: 2224-2237.
- ⇒ Carter BS. An ethical rationale for perinatal palliative care. [Semin Perinatol](#). Available online 2021 Nov 9, 151526.
- ⇒ Chieze M, Clavien C, Kaiser S, et al. Coercive measures in psychiatry: A review of ethical arguments. [Front Psychiatry](#). 2021; 12: 790886.

*“Thinking of coercive measures not only as safety and risk reduction methods, but also as part of a process aiming to rebuild identity and autonomy in the medium term, could result in coercion processes that are more acceptable to patients and caregivers.”*

(Chieze et al.)

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- ⇒ Reed-Berendt R, Dove ES, Pareek M. The ethical implications of big data research in public health: "Big data ethics by design" in the UK-REACH study. [Ethics Hum Res](#). 2022 Jan; 44: 2-17.

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## BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE (CONTINUED)

- ⇒ Tian YJA. The ethical unjustifications of covid-19 triage committees. [J Bioeth Inq](#). 2021 Dec; 18: 621-628.
- ⇒ Vranas KC, Plinke W, Bourne D, et al. The influence of POLST on treatment intensity at the end of life: A systematic review. [J Am Geriatr Soc](#). 2021 Dec; 69: 3661-3674.
- ⇒ Wilson Y. Empathy and structural injustice in the assessment of patient noncompliance. [Bioethics](#). Published Online First: 2021 Dec 30.



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## BIOETHICS IN THE NEWS

- ⇒ It's staff, not stuff: Applying crisis standards of care to allocating health care workers. [STAT News](#), January 21, 2022.
- ⇒ Study finds bias against Black patients written into medical charts. [Axios](#), January 20, 2022.
- ⇒ Pig heart transplant: was David Bennett the right person to receive groundbreaking surgery? [The Conversation](#), January 19, 2022.
- ⇒ Arkansas inmates are suing after being given ivermectin to treat COVID-19. [NPR](#), January 18, 2022.
- ⇒ Artificial intelligence can discriminate on the basis of race and gender, and also age. [The Conversation](#), January 18, 2022.
- ⇒ Opinion: After the pig-to-human heart transplant, the FDA, clinicians and insurers have some catching up to do. [The Washington Post](#), January 13, 2022.
- ⇒ Teaching self-care alongside patient care. [Internal Medicine at Iowa](#), January 7, 2022.



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# 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](#).