

# BIOETHICS & HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER



## 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](#)

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# BIOETHICS RESOURCES

## COVID-19 ETHICS RESOURCES

As the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to spread worldwide, communities and countries are facing difficult questions and challenging situations presented by this unprecedented public health emergency. Several organizations have been putting together online ethics resources to help encourage ethical reflection and decision making. Here are a few of these resources:

- ⇒ Bioethics.net and the American Journal of Bioethics: [Bioethics Toolkit Resources for COVID-19](#)
- ⇒ The AMA Journal of Ethics: [Covid-19 Ethics Resource Center](#)
- ⇒ The Hastings Center: [Ethics Resources on the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- ⇒ Health Affairs: [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus Disease\) Resource Center](#)
- ⇒ Johns Hopkins University : [Coronavirus Resource Center](#)
- ⇒ Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security: [What US Hospitals Should Do Now to Prepare for a COVID-19 Pandemic](#)



## RESOURCES ON CRISIS STANDARDS OF CARE, RESOURCE ALLOCATION AND TRIAGE DECISION MAKING

- ⇒ ASPR TRACIE Topic Collection: [Crisis Standards of Care](#)
- ⇒ Institute of Medicine (2012): [Crisis Standards of Care: A Systems Framework for Catastrophic Disaster Response](#)
- ⇒ Minnesota Department of Health (2019): [Patient Care Strategies for Scarce Resource Situations](#)
- ⇒ Minnesota Department of Health (2020): [Minnesota Crisis Standards of Care Framework](#)
- ⇒ New York State Task Force on Life and the Law, New York State Department of Health (2015): [Ventilator Allocation Guidelines](#)
- ⇒ The Pandemic Influenza Ethics Initiative Work Group of the Veteran's Health Administration's National Center for Ethics in Health Care (2010): [Meeting the Challenge of Pandemic Influenza: Ethical Guidance for Leaders and Health Care Professionals in the Veterans Health Administration](#)

# PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHT

## Practicing the Ethics We Teach in International Medical Education

Lauris C. Kaldjian

[Medical Education](#) (2020)

Drawing from interviews of teachers and directors at three international medical training programmes, and guided by a conceptual framework of themes in the literature, Brouwer et al describe three areas of ethical concern in international medical education. These potential problems invite us to think about ethical values in medical education that (when practised) can mitigate against such risks. One way to begin such thinking would be to reflect on what we teach students about clinical ethics regarding principles and virtues that promote the patient's good and then consider the relevance of these values to the student's good. Thinking along these lines encourages us to see medical education as an opportunity to demonstrate to students the kinds of moral values we expect them to manifest to their patients.



To read the rest of the article, [click here](#).

## BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE

- ⇒ Antommaria AHM, Feudtner C, Benner MB, et al. The healthcare ethics consultant-certified program: Fair, feasible, and defensible, but neither definitive nor finished. [Am J Bioeth](#). 2020 Mar; 20: 1-5.
- ⇒ Appleby J. Tackling covid-19: Are the costs worth the benefits? [BMJ](#). 2020 Apr 21; 369: m1496.
- ⇒ Bartsch SM, Ferguson MC, McKinnell JA, et al. The potential health care costs and resource use associated with Covid-19 in the United States. [Health Affairs](#). 2020. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Bester JC. Beneficence, interests, and wellbeing in medicine: What it means to provide benefit to patients. [Am J Bioeth](#). 2020 Mar; 20: 53-62.
- ⇒ Caruso Brown AE, Arthur JD, Mutrie LH, et al. Seeking a second opinion on social media. [Pediatrics](#). 2019 Nov; 144.
- ⇒ deSante-Bertkau JE, Shubkin CD, Nelson WA, et al. When specialty care is unavailable to rural families. [Pediatrics](#). 2019 Dec; 144.
- ⇒ Essien UR, Venkataramani A. Data and policy solutions to address racial and ethnic disparities in the Covid-19 pandemic. [JAMA](#) 2020. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Friesen P. Medically assisted dying and suicide: How are they different, and how are they similar? [Hastings Cent Rep](#). 2020 Jan; 50: 32-43.
- ⇒ Frush BW, Malone JR. Suffering and the moral orientation of presence: Lessons from Nazi medicine for the contemporary medical trainee. [J Med Ethics](#). 2020. [Epub ahead of print]

## BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE (*continued*)

- ⇒ Gostin LO, Friedman EA, Wetter SA. Responding to COVID-19: How to navigate a public health emergency legally and ethically. [Hastings Cent Rep](#). 2020 Mar; 50: 8-12.
- ⇒ Hart WM, Doerr P, Qian Y, et al. What constitutes effective team communication after an error? [AMA J Ethics](#). 2020; 22: 298-304.
- ⇒ Hawks L, Woolhandler S, McCormick D. Covid-19 in prisons and jails in the United States. [JAMA Intern Med](#). 2020. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Matheny Antommara AH, Gibb TS, McGuire AL, et al. Ventilator triage policies during the Covid-19 pandemic at U.S. hospitals associated with members of the Association of Bioethics Program Directors. [Ann Intern Med](#). 2020 Apr 24. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Navin MC, Wasserman JA, Jain S, et al. When do pediatricians call the ethics consultation service? Impact of clinical experience and formal ethics training. [AJOB Empir Bioeth](#). 2020 Mar 24. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Nortje N. Speaking for our father. [Narrat Inq Bioeth](#). 2019; 9: 173-177.
- ⇒ Owen WF, Jr., Carmona R, Pomeroy C. Failing another national stress test on health disparities. [JAMA](#). 2020 Apr 15. [Epub ahead of print]

***“A noninclusive list of confounders from the ecosystem of social determinants of health relevant to COVID-19 include struggling in poverty with limited job and social mobility; working frontline jobs with lack of adequate personal protective equipment (eg, public transportation, pharmacy, grocery, and warehouse distribution workers); living in crowded apartments where social distancing is impossible; shopping in food deserts or swamps without access to healthful foods; being underinsured and using self-rationing of health care as a strategy; relying on public transportation on crowded buses and subways; and having a public kindergarten through 12th-grade education that too often leads to functional health illiteracy.”***

(Owen et al.)

- ⇒ Ploug T, Holm S. The 'expiry problem' of broad consent for biobank research - and why a meta consent model solves it. [J Med Ethics](#). 2020 Feb 25. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Rabi DM, Kunneman M, Montori VM. When guidelines recommend shared decision-making. [JAMA](#). 2020 Mar 13. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Rose S. Medical student education in the time of COVID-19. [JAMA](#). 2020 Mar 31. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Sheikh A, Dhami S. Ethnicity and “aggressive” end-of-life care. [CMAJ](#). 2020; 192: E287-E288.
- ⇒ Tsan M-F, Tsan GL. How should organizations respond to repeated noncompliance by prominent researchers? [AMA J Ethics](#). 2020; 22: 201-208.
- ⇒ Woods M. Moral distress revisited: The viewpoints and responses of nurses. [Int Nurs Rev](#). 2020 Mar; 67: 68-75.
- ⇒ Yancy CW. Covid-19 and African Americans. [JAMA](#). 2020. [Epub ahead of print]

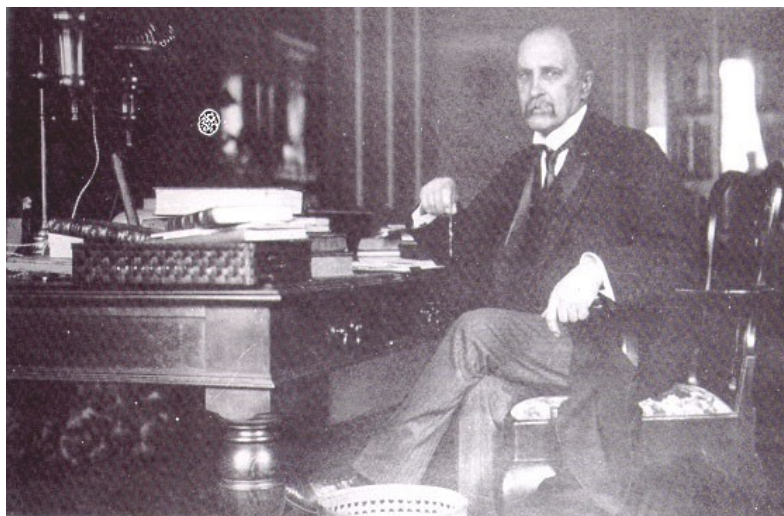
## BIOETHICS IN THE NEWS

- ⇒ [We have to know when to let go, says bioethicist](#). BioEdge, April 26, 2020.
- ⇒ [In allocating scarce health care resources during COVID-19, don't forget health justice](#). Health Affairs Blog, April 25, 2020.
- ⇒ [The idea to 'flatten the curve.'](#) Michigan Today, April 23, 2020.
- ⇒ [Doctors facing grim choices over ventilators told to put patients with disabilities at the back of the line](#). The Conversation, April 20, 2020.
- ⇒ [Structural racism, white fragility, and ventilator rationing policies](#). The Hastings Center, April 20, 2020.
- ⇒ [The pandemic's hidden victims: Sick or dying, but not from the virus](#). The New York Times, April 20, 2020.
- ⇒ [People with disabilities fear pandemic will worsen medical biases](#). NPR, April 15, 2020.
- ⇒ [Ethics and evidence in the search for a vaccine and treatment for COVID-19](#). The Hastings Center, April 15, 2020.
- ⇒ [The quest for a pandemic pill](#). The New Yorker, April 6, 2020.



## HISTORY OF MEDICINE SOCIETY

The University of Iowa History of Medicine Society invites you to visit the [John Martin Rare Book Room website](#). On this website you will find resources, [digital exhibits](#), and news/highlights.



Sir William Osler at his desk. This desk is on exhibit at the John Martin Rare Book Room  
Photo Credit: <https://blog.lib.uiowa.edu/hardin/2007/11/07/from-oxford-to-iowa-city-the-desk-of-sir-william-osler/>

# BIOETHICS OPPORTUNITIES

## PEDIATRIC ETHICS WEBINARS

Registration is now open for a series of pediatric ethics webinars hosted by Children's Mercy Kansas City Bioethics Center. For more information and to register, click [here](#).



# BIOETHICS SERVICES AT THE UIHC

## ETHICS CONSULT SERVICE

This service is a resource for patients, family members, or health professionals at UIHC who would like help addressing an ethical question or problem related to a patient's care. Consults can be ordered by UIHC clinicians through EPIC. Consults can also be requested by calling (319) 356-1616 and asking for 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](#).

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