

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 TOPIC OF THE MONTH:

CALIBRATING OUR RESPONSES TO MEDICAL FUTILITY

Key Articles and Resources

- ⇒ AMA Code of Medical Ethics Opinion 5.5: [Medically Ineffective Interventions](#)
- ⇒ Bosslet GT, Pope TM, Rubenfeld GD, et al. An official ATS/AACN/AACP/ESICM/SCCM policy statement: Responding to requests for potentially inappropriate treatments in intensive care units. [Am J Respir Crit Care Med](#). 2015 Jun 1; 191: 1318-1330.

“This multisociety statement recommends strategies to prevent treatment disputes in ICUs, provides a framework to characterize disputes, and outlines processes to manage intractable treatment disputes with an emphasis on procedural fairness. It is grounded on the premise that it is ethically untenable to give complete authority for treatment decisions to either patients/surrogates or individual clinicians. Instead, clinicians and patients/surrogates should work collaboratively to make treatment decisions and, in the face of disagreement, should first augment efforts to find a negotiated agreement, including involving expert consultants. In the rare cases in which intractable conflict develops, clinicians should pursue a process-based approach to conflict resolution.”

(Bosslet et al.)

- ⇒ Dzung E, Curtis JR. Understanding ethical climate, moral distress, and burnout: A novel tool and a conceptual framework. [BMJ Qual Saf](#). 2018 Oct; 27: 766-770.
- ⇒ Fourie C. Who is experiencing what kind of moral distress? Distinctions for moving from a narrow to a broad definition of moral distress. [AMA Journal of Ethics](#). 2017 June; 19: 578-584.
- ⇒ Gillon R. Defending the four principles approach as a good basis for good medical practice and therefore for good medical ethics. [J Med Ethics](#). 2015 Jan; 41: 111-116.
- ⇒ Haberle TH, Shinkunas LA, Erekson ZD, et al. Goals of care among hospitalized patients: A validation study. [Am J Hosp Palliat Care](#). 2011 Aug; 28: 335-341.
- ⇒ Kaldjian LC. Clarifying core content of goals of care discussions. [J Gen Intern Med](#). 2020 Mar; 35: 913-915.
- ⇒ Kaldjian LC, Curtis AE, Shinkunas LA, et al. Goals of care toward the end of life: A structured literature review. [Am J Hosp Palliat Care](#). 2009 Dec-2009 Jan; 25: 501-511.
- ⇒ McCarthy J, Deady R. Moral distress reconsidered. [Nurs Ethics](#). 2008 Mar; 15: 254-262.

HUMANITIES CORNER

This month's spotlight is on **Samantha Metzger, a visiting medical student from University of Missouri Health Care**. Her creative work is a haiku 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. This haiku was written about an experience that Samantha had with a patient who did not speak English.

*Compassionate care
Transcending all languages
And every culture*

BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE

- ⇒ April CW, Morrow J, April MD. Code status blues: Do legal nudges discourage doctors from ordering do-not-resuscitate? [Perm J](#). 2022 Sep 14; 26: 46-52.
- ⇒ Arnfeldt CM, Groenvold M, Johnsen AT, et al. Development of an advance directive 'communication tool' relevant for patients with advanced cancer in six European countries: Experiences from the action trial. [PLoS One](#). 2022; 17: e0271919.
- ⇒ Bomhof CHC, Schermer M, Sleijfer S, et al. Physicians' perspectives on ethical issues regarding expensive anti-cancer treatments: A qualitative study. [AJOB Empir Bioeth](#). 2022 Aug 26. [Epub ahead of print].
- ⇒ Burstein DS, Svigos F, Patel A, et al. A scoping review on the concept of physician caring. [J Gen Intern Med](#). 2022 Sep; 37: 3134-3146.
- ⇒ Cox D. How overturning Roe v Wade has eroded privacy of personal data. [BMJ](#). 2022 Aug 26; 378: o2075.
- ⇒ Dresser R. Ourselves, with dementia. [Hastings Cent Rep](#). 2022 Jul; 52: 3.
- ⇒ Dy SM, Scerpella DL, Cotter V, et al. Sharing choices: Design and rationale for a pragmatic trial of an advance care planning intervention for older adults with and without dementia in primary care. [Contemp Clin Trials](#). 2022 Aug; 119: 106818.
- ⇒ Gassas R, Salem O. Factors affecting nurses' professional values: A comprehensive integrative review. [Nurse Educ Today](#). 2022 Aug 17; 118: 105515.
- ⇒ Gillon R. Dr. Daly's principlist defence of multiple heart valve replacements for continuing opiate users: The importance of Aristotle's formal principle of justice. [J Med Ethics](#). 2022 Sept 2. [Epub ahead of print]

“Since other patients with life-threatening conditions repeatedly caused by their own behaviour would—in the context of contemporary American medicine—be treated with repeated life-saving treatments—in his motor cycling example with far more expensive life-saving treatments—so similarly should intravenous opiate users be treated with repeated life-saving treatments.”

(Gillon)

- ⇒ Golden BP, Tackett S, Kobayashi K, et al. Sitting at the bedside: Patient and internal medicine trainee perceptions. [J Gen Intern Med](#). 2022 Sep; 37: 3038-3044.

BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE (CONTINUED)

- ⇒ Grady C. The evolution of research participant as partner: The seminal contributions of Bob Veatch. [Theor Med Bioeth](#). 2022 Aug 18. [Epub ahead of print].
- ⇒ Guttman N. "Look after each other"- ethical concerns in the use of communicative appeals to solidarity in the face of a pandemic. [Health Commun](#). 2022 Aug 30.2022/09/01. 1-11.
- ⇒ Iorio S, Cilione M, Martini M, et al. Soft skills are hard skills-a historical perspective. [Medicina \(Kaunas\)](#). 2022 Aug 3; 58.
- ⇒ Jagers K, Gillett J, Kuperman V, et al. Personhood and aging: Exploring the written narratives of older adults as articulations of personhood in later life. [J Aging Stud](#). 2022 Sep; 62: 101040.
- ⇒ Kondrat A. Clinical ethics consultation and the reframing of risk. [Perspect Biol Med](#). 2022; 65: 207-212.
- ⇒ Olortegui KS, Angelos P. Surgeons and professionalism: Where we are and where we need to go. [J Am Coll Surg](#). 2022 Sep 1; 235: 544-548.
- ⇒ Pathman DE, Sonis J, Rauner TE, et al. Moral distress among clinicians working in us safety net practices during the covid-19 pandemic: A mixed methods study. [BMJ Open](#). 2022 Aug 25; 12: e061369.
- ⇒ Piller C. Blots on a field? [Science](#). 2022 Jul 22; 377: 358-363.
- ⇒ Prince AER, Suter SM, Uhlmann WR, et al. The goldilocks conundrum: Disclosing discrimination risks in informed consent. [J Genet Couns](#). 2022 Aug 5. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Reynolds KA, Harikumar VB, Poon E, et al. While ethical considerations predominate, scientific merit can impact institutional review board (IRB) determinations: A cross-sectional study. [J Clin Epidemiol](#). 2022 Jun 22; 150: 12-17.
- ⇒ Ross LF. Covid-19 vaccine refusal and organ transplantation. [Am J Kidney Dis](#). 2022 Jun; 79: 771-773.
- ⇒ Shapiro JP, Anspacher M, Madrigal V, et al. Disposition decisions in cases of medical complexity and health inequity. [Pediatrics](#). 2022 Aug 1; 150.
- ⇒ Timmerman G, Baart A. The continuing formation of relational caring professionals. [Med Health Care Philos](#). 2022 Aug 27. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Webster P. Worries grow about medically assisted dying in Canada. [Lancet](#). 2022 Sep 10; 400: 801-802.
- ⇒ Wynia MK. Professional civil disobedience - medical-society responsibilities after Dobbs. [N Engl J Med](#). 2022 Sep 15; 387: 959-961.



BIOETHICS IN THE NEWS

- ⇒ Uganda's Ebola outbreak: Trainee doctors go on strike over safety fears. [BBC News](#), September 26, 2022.
- ⇒ The controversial embryo tests that promise a better baby. [Nature](#), September 21, 2022.
- ⇒ FDA seems poised to approve a new drug for ALS, but does it work? [NPR](#), September 21, 2022.
- ⇒ Termination is the safest course for some high-risk pregnancies. Dobbs decision threatens that care. [STAT News](#), September 21, 2022.
- ⇒ The controversial embryo tests that promise a better baby. [Nature](#), September 21, 2022.
- ⇒ The case for lotteries as a tiebreaker of quality in research funding. [Nature](#), September 20, 2022.
- ⇒ We've only just begun to examine the racial disparities of long covid. [MIT Technology Review](#), September 20, 2022.
- ⇒ Physician burnout continues at record levels, one-third feel 'hopeless.' [MedPage Today](#), September 19, 2022.
- ⇒ What are uterus transplants? Who donates their uterus? And what are the risks? [The Conversation](#), September 15, 2022.
- ⇒ Medical journals broaden inquiry into potential heart research misconduct. [Reuters](#), September 13, 2022.



BIOETHICS OPPORTUNITIES

UPCOMING

- ⇒ Examined Life Conference, hosted by the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. October 20-22, 2022. For more information, [click here](#).
- ⇒ The Hastings Center: [Upcoming Webinars and Events](#)

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](#)
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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](#).