

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 RESOURCES

COVID-19 ETHICS RESOURCES

- ⇒ The AMA Journal of Ethics: [Covid-19 Ethics Resource Center](#)
- ⇒ Bioethics.net and the American Journal of Bioethics: [Bioethics Toolkit Resources for COVID-19](#)
- ⇒ Children's Mercy Kansas City: [COVID Pandemic Podcast Series](#)—
- ⇒ The Hastings Center: [Ethics Resources on the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- ⇒ The [Hasting Center Report May/June 2020 Issue](#) (dedicated to COVID-19)
- ⇒ Health Affairs: [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus Disease\) Resource Center](#)
- ⇒ Johns Hopkins University : [Coronavirus Ethics and Policy Insights and Resources](#)
- ⇒ John's Hopkins University: [An ethical framework for the COVID-19 reopening process](#)
- ⇒ Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security: [What US Hospitals Should Do Now to Prepare for a COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- ⇒ UIHC Ethics Rounds (6/17/20): [Life, liberty, and COVID-19: An ethical examination of social distancing](#)
- ⇒ UNC Center for Bioethics: [Pandemic Ethics Resources](#)



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

Shared Decision Making in Surgery: A Scoping Review of Patient and Surgeon Preferences

Laura A. Shinkunas, Caleb J. Klipowicz, and Erica M. Carlisle

[BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making](#) (2020)

Background: Many suggest that shared decision-making (SDM) is the most effective approach to clinical counseling. It is unclear if this applies to surgical decision-making-especially regarding urgent, highly-morbid operations. In this scoping review, we identify articles that address patient and surgeon preferences toward SDM in surgery.

Methods: We used the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR) to develop our protocol. Medline, EMBASE, and Cochrane databases were searched from inception through 11.2017. Title/abstract review identified peer-reviewed, empirical articles that addressed patient/ surgeon preferences toward SDM in surgery. Identified articles underwent full review by two independent investigators. We addressed the following questions: (1) What is known from existing empirical evidence about patients' and/or surgeons' surgical decision-making preferences? (2) Why might patients and/or surgeons prefer SDM? (3) Does acuity of intervention impact surgical decision-making preferences? Outcome measures included study methods, surgical specialty, diagnosis, study location/setting, type/number of subjects, acuity of intervention, surgeon/ patient decision-making preferences, and factors associated with favoring SDM. Data was analyzed in Microsoft Excel.

Results: 20,359 articles were identified with 4988 duplicates, yielding 15,371 articles for title/abstract review. 74 articles were included in final analysis. 68% of articles discussed oncologic decision-making. 46% of these focused on breast cancer. 92% of articles included patients, 22% included surgeons. 75% of articles found surgeons favored SDM, 25% demonstrated surgeons favored surgeon guidance. 54% of articles demonstrated patients favored SDM, 35% showed patients favored surgeon guidance, 11% showed patients preferred independent decision-making. The most common factors for patients favoring SDM included female gender, higher education, and younger age. For surgeons, the most common factors for favoring SDM included limited evidence for a given treatment plan, multiple treatment options, and impact on patient lifestyle. No articles evaluated decision-making preferences in an emergent setting.

Conclusions: There has been limited evaluation of patient and surgeon preferences toward SDM in surgical decision-making. Generally, patients and surgeons expressed preference toward SDM. None of the articles evaluated decision-making preferences in an emergent setting, so assessment of the impact of acuity on decision-making preferences is limited. Extension of research to complex, emergent clinical settings is needed.

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

BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE

- ⇒ Adams C. Goals of care in a pandemic: Our experience and recommendations. [J Pain Symptom Manage](#). 2020 Jul; 60: e15-e17.
- ⇒ Auriemma CL, Halpern SD, Asch JM, et al. Completion of advance directives and documented care preferences during the coronavirus disease 2019 (covid-19) pandemic. [JAMA Netw Open](#). 2020 Jul 1; 3: e2015762.
- ⇒ Cherry MJ. Clinical and organizational ethics: Challenges to methodology and practice. [HEC Forum](#). 2020 Sep; 32: 191-197.
- ⇒ Comer A, Fettig L, Torke AM. Identifying goals of care. [Med Clin North Am](#). 2020 Sep; 104: 767-775.
- ⇒ Costa-Drolon E, Verneuil L, Manolios E, et al. Medical students' perspectives on empathy: A systematic review and metasynthesis. [Acad Med](#). 2020 Aug 4. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Fairchild A, Gostin L, Bayer R. Vexing, veiled, and inequitable: Social distancing and the "rights" divide in the age of covid-19. [Am J Bioeth](#). 2020 Jul; 20: 55-61.
- ⇒ Garcia LC, Shanafelt TD, West CP, et al. Burnout, depression, career satisfaction, and work-life integration by physician race/ethnicity. [JAMA Netw Open](#). 2020 Aug 3; 3: e2012762.
- ⇒ Gaur S, Pandya N, Dumyati G, et al. A structured tool for communication and care planning in the era of the covid-19 pandemic. [J Am Med Dir Assoc](#). 2020 Jul; 21: 943-947.
- ⇒ Greer DM, Shemie SD, Lewis A, et al. Determination of brain death/death by neurologic criteria: The World Brain Death Project. [JAMA](#). 2020 Aug 3. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Huxtable R. Bin it or pin it? Which professional ethical guidance on managing covid-19 should i follow? [BMC Med Ethics](#). 2020 Jul 15; 21: 60.
- ⇒ Jaklevic MC. Researchers strive to recruit hard-hit minorities into covid-19 vaccine trials. [JAMA](#). 2020 Aug 13. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Lown BA, Goldberg MJ. Do physicians have collective, not just individual, obligations to respond to the opioid crisis? [AMA J Ethics](#). 2020; 22: 668-674.



BIOETHICS IN THE LITERATURE (*continued*)

- ⇒ McGuire AL, Aulisio MP, Davis FD, et al. Ethical challenges arising in the covid-19 pandemic: An overview from the Association of Bioethics Program Directors (ABPD) task force. [Am J Bioeth](#). 2020 Jul; 20: 15-27.
- ⇒ Mitchell SL, Volandes AE, Gutman R, et al. Advance care planning video intervention among long-stay nursing home residents: A pragmatic cluster randomized clinical trial. [JAMA Intern Med](#). 2020 Jul 6. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Mukherjee D. Experiencing community in a Covid surge. [Hastings Cent Rep](#). 2020 May; 50: 10-11.
- ⇒ Pratt B. What constitutes fair shared decision-making in global health research collaborations? [Bioethics](#). 2020 Jul 30. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Scales D. An understaffed hospital battles covid-19. [Health Aff \(Millwood\)](#). 2020 Aug; 39: 1450-1452.
- ⇒ Schweikart SJ. Who makes decisions for incapacitated patients who have no surrogate or advance directive? [AMA J Ethics](#). 2019 Jul 1; 21: E587-593.
- ⇒ Truog RD, Krishnamurthy K, Tasker RC. Brain death-moving beyond consistency in the diagnostic criteria. [JAMA](#). 2020 Aug 3. [Epub ahead of print]

“A key question will be whether the whole-brain biological standard for defining [brain death, or determination of death by neurologic criteria] will remain tenable, or whether this concept should be replaced by the values-based brainstem standard.”

(Truog et al.)

- ⇒ Wang EA, Zenilman J, Brinkley-Rubinstein L. Ethical considerations for covid-19 vaccine trials in correctional facilities. [JAMA](#). 2020 Aug 17. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Wolinetz CD, Collins FS. Recognition of research participants' need for autonomy: Remembering the legacy of Henrietta Lacks. [JAMA](#). 2020 Aug 11. [Epub ahead of print]
- ⇒ Wood BS, Winzelberg GS. Expanding and enhancing advance care planning to promote goal-concordant care. [N C Med J](#). 2020 Jul-Aug; 81: 242-248.

BIOETHICS IN THE NEWS

- ⇒ [Colleges weigh transparency versus privacy when it comes to covid-19 data](#). The Wall Street Journal, August 25, 2020.
- ⇒ [Covid-19 vaccine won't be mandatory in the US, says Fauci](#). Medical Xpress, August 19, 2020.
- ⇒ [Isolation, disruption, and confusion: Coping with dementia during a pandemic](#). Kaiser Health News, August 18, 2020.
- ⇒ [The ethical case for allowing medical trials that deliberately infect humans with COVID-19](#). The Conversation, August 17, 2020.
- ⇒ [U.S. will prepare coronavirus strain for potential human challenge trials](#). The Washington Post, August 14, 2020.
- ⇒ [Covid-19 clinical trials are failing to enroll diverse populations, despite awareness efforts](#). STAT News, August 14, 2020.
- ⇒ [Is the coronavirus pandemic accelerating bioethics nationalism?](#) Hasting Center Bioethics Forum, August 9, 2020.
- ⇒ [Cancer treatment in WA prisoners often too little too late](#). Crosscut, August 5, 2020.
- ⇒ [Should youth come first in coronavirus care?](#) The New York Times, July 31, 2020.



BIOETHICS OPPORTUNITIES

32ND ANNUAL DOROTHY J. MACLEAN FELLOWS CONFERENCE ON CLINICAL MEDICAL ETHICS

DATE: Friday, November 13 - Saturday, November 14

TIME: 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM

LOCATION: All Events will take place over Zoom

Open to the public and FREE of charge

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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