**BIOMEDICAL ETHICS THREAD in the Carver College of Medicine Curriculum  
Director: Dr. Lauris Kaldjian, MD, PhD**

**M1 & M2 Years**

**Semester 1**

**• Informed Consent & Shared Decision Making**

**• Privacy and Confidentiality**

**• Clinical Ethical Reasoning & Goals of Care**

**• Ethical Principles & Virtues**

**• Parental Refusal of Routine Vaccinations**

**• Cultural & Religious Diversity Semester 2**

**• Solid Organ Transplantation & Diagnosis of Death**

**Semester 3 • Disclosure of Medical Errors**

**• Advance Directives, Code Status, & Goals of Care • Professional Duty to Care**

**• Life Support, Palliation, & Futility**

**• Conflicts of Interest & Competing Obligations**

**• Ethical Challenges in the Use of AI in Healthcare**

**M2/M3 Years**

**Ethics & Professionalism Seminars:**

**• Internal Medicine Rotation**

**• Pediatrics Rotation**

**• OB/GYN Rotation**

**• Surgery Rotation**

**M3/M4 Years**

**Professionalism Seminars:**

**• Sub-Internships in Internal Medicine, Pediatrics,**

**Surgery, & Ob-Gyn**

**• Critical Care Rotations in the MICU, PICU, & SNICU**

**The BIOMEDICAL ETHICS THREAD  
In the Carver College of Medicine’s standard curriculum  
Director: Dr. Lauris Kaldjian, MD, PhD**

## PRE-CLINICAL phase (M1/M2 years):

A variety of formats are provided to facilitate learning and discussion of a broad range of topics in biomedical ethics. These include pre-recorded lectures (a “flipped classroom” approach), live lectures, large group discussions of clinical cases, and small group discussions. The following topics are addressed:

## Semester 1

**Informed Consent and Shared Decision Making** (L. Kaldjian, MD, PhD)

Components: readings; pre-recorded lecture; in-person discussion of cases (entire-class) .

**Privacy and Confidentiality** (A. Kunz, DO, MA, MME)

Components: one in-person lecture (entire-class).

**Clinical Ethical Reasoning, Goals of Care, and Professional Roles** (L. Kaldjian, MD, PhD)

Components: readings; pre-recorded lecture; in-person discussion of cases (entire-class); and small group exercise (drafting a clinic policy on pain management contracts).

**Ethical Principles and Virtues in Medicine** (L. Kaldjian, MD, PhD)

Components: readings; pre-recorded lecture; in-person discussion of cases (entire-class).

**Policies for Caring for Children Whose Parents Refuse Childhood Vaccinations** (L. Kaldjian, MD, PhD)

Components: small group exercise (drafting a clinic policy); in-person discussion of policies (entire-class).

**Cultural and Religious Diversity among Patients** (A. Kunz, DO, MA, MME)

Components: pre-recorded lecture; in-person discussion of cases (entire-class).

## Semester 2

**Justice, Utility, and the Diagnosis of Death in Solid Organ Transplantation** (L. Kaldjian, MD, PhD & C. Thomas, MD)

Components: readings; pre-recorded lecture; in-person discussion of cases (entire-class).

**Professionalism, Virtues, and Legal Perspectives Regarding Disclosure of Medical Errors** (L. Kaldjian and guests)

Components: readings; pre-recorded lecture; in-person discussion of cases (entire-class).

**The Professional Duty to Care** (L. Kaldjian, MD, PhD)

Components: readings; pre-recorded lecture; in-person discussion of cases (entire-class); and small group exercise (drafting a hospital policy on duty to care during an epidemic).

## Semester 3

**End of Life Decision-Making (Part I): Advance Directives, Code Status Discussions, and Goals of Care** (L. Kaldjian, MD, PhD)

Components: readings; pre-recorded lecture; in-person discussion of cases (entire-class).

**End of Life Decision Making (Part II): Withholding/ Withdrawing Life Support, Palliation, and Futility** (L. Kaldjian, MD, PhD)

Components: readings; pre-recorded lecture; in-person discussion of cases (entire-class).

**Conflicts of Interest and Competing Obligations** (L. Kaldjian, MD, PhD)

Components: pre-recorded lecture; in-person discussion of cases (entire-class).

**Ethical Challenges in the Use of AI in Healthcare** (L. Kaldjian, MD, PhD)

(a part of *Biomedical Informatics and AI*, with Eric Epping, MD, Lindsey Knake, MD, and Lemuel Non, MD)

Components: pre-recorded lectures; in-person discussion with cases (entire-class).

## CLINICAL phase (M2/M3/M4 years):

The CCOM integrates ethics across the medical student curriculum so that what is learned in the pre-clinical phase is integrated with what is experienced in the clinics and on the wards. This is accomplished through **Ethics and Professionalism Seminars** that take place during the following clinical rotations (clerkships):

For these Seminars, students submit a written reflection that describes an ethical or professional situation they have encountered during their current clinical rotation, addresses its ethical issues, and considers how they would handle such a situation in the future. Selected reflections are chosen for faculty-facilitated small group discussion with currently rotating students toward the end of each rotation.

* M2/M3: Internal Medicine
* M2/M3: Surgery
* M2/M3: Obstetrics & Gynecology
* M3/M4: Sub-internships in Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Ob-Gyn, and Surgery (“EHSIS” Seminar)
* M3/M4: Critical Care rotations (MICU, PICU, and SNICU)

M2/M3: Pediatrics (provides a didactic session entitled “Ethical Issues in Pediatrics”, rather than a reflection-based Seminar