

BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER



PROGRAM IN BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES

February 2016

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](#)



Publication Highlight

[Ethical Issues in Caring for Prison Inmates with Advanced Cancer](#)

Laurie Jean Lyckholm, MD and Caroline Lucas Glancey, MS, ACNP-BC

Prison life is difficult, and when a prisoner develops a serious illness, the difficulty is significantly compounded. The health care providers involved in the prisoners' care also face tremendous challenges in providing the best care possible while observing prison rules and the need for public safety, often in desperately underfunded, underresourced circumstances. This article includes a discussion of the ethical issues, especially justice issues, encountered in provision of care for prisoners that should, but often does not, approximate that of nonprisoner care. The history of the prison hospice movement is described. The case of a prisoner with extensive cancer and multiple symptoms is presented to highlight the ethical, existential, and practical issues encountered especially by the nurses, as well as other team members providing care for prisoners with advanced cancer. Then follows a discussion of the collaborative, compassionate approach to his care that maintained public and personal safety while optimizing symptom management and respect for his goals of care. Finally, suggestions for improving care of inmates with serious illness are provided.

This article is not publicly available. [Please click here](#) to access the full-text article through the University of Iowa libraries InfoLink.

Upcoming Events

Ethics in Healthcare 2016

A One-Day Conference for Collaborative Dialogue and Inter-Professional Exchange



Date: May 20, 2016

Time: 7:45 AM – 4:45 PM

The University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine and the Program in Bioethics and Humanities will host its first one day conference on May 20, 2016 in the Medical Education and Research Facility (MERF), Room 2117. This conference is designed to help healthcare professionals meet the challenges of the increasing number and range of ethical challenges in healthcare as they surface in their work as clinicians, members of ethics committees or ethics consult teams, and administrators.

Bioethics in the Literature

- de Oliveira Vidal EI, Silva Vdos S, Santos MF, et al. Why medical schools are tolerant of unethical behavior. [Ann Fam Med](#). 2015 Mar; 13: 176-180.
- Johnson LM, Church CL, Metzger M, et al. Ethics consultation in pediatrics: Long-term experience from a pediatric oncology center. [Am J Bioeth](#). 2015; 15: 3-17.
- Karlson EW, Boutin NT, Hoffnagle AG, et al. Building the Partners HealthCare Biobank at Partners Personalized Medicine: Informed consent, return of research results, recruitment lessons and operational considerations. [J Pers Med](#). 2016; 6.
- Kirby J. Balancing legitimate critical-care interests: Setting defensible care limits through policy development. [Am J Bioeth](#). 2016 Jan; 16: 38-47.
- Levy N. Addiction, autonomy, and informed consent: On and off the garden path. [J Med Philos](#). 2016 Feb; 41: 56-73.
- Moran-Sanchez I, Luna A, Sanchez-Munoz M, et al. Decision-making capacity for research participation among addicted people: A cross-sectional study. [BMC Med Ethics](#). 2016; 17: 3.
- Sim K, Sum MY, Navedo D. Use of narratives to enhance learning of research ethics in residents and researchers. [BMC Med Educ](#). 2015; 15: 41.
- Simon J, Porterfield P, Bouchal SR, et al. 'Not yet' and 'Just ask': Barriers and facilitators to advance care planning--a qualitative descriptive study of the perspectives of seriously ill, older patients and their families. [BMJ Support Palliat Care](#). 2015 Mar; 5: 54-62.
- Venkat A, Asher SL, Wolf L, et al. Ethical issues in the response to Ebola virus disease in United States emergency departments: a position paper of the American College of Emergency Physicians, the Emergency Nurses Association, and the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine. [Acad Emerg Med](#). 2015 May; 22: 605-615.

Resource Highlight



A recent issue of JAMA (January 19, 2016) may be of interest to our subscribers. It is dedicated to end-of-life care and physician-assisted suicide. You can access this issue of JAMA [here](#).

Intended Audience: Physicians, Nurses, Social Workers, Chaplains, Physician Assistants, Trainees, Students, and Others

For more information about the conference and to register, please click [here](#).

For a listing of more upcoming events related to bioethics and humanities, please click [here](#).

Reading Ethics at UIHC

If you are interested to see what the UIHC Ethics Subcommittee was reading in December, [please click here](#).

Quotation of the Month

Nurses and physicians have special duties in service of the sick, and because this obligation holds even in face of greater than usual risks to one's own safety, health care professionals consequently accept greater risks than ordinary, balancing immediate benefits to individual patients with the professional's own health and ability to treat future patients. But there is no consensus on the specific limits of this duty."

Venkat A et al. (for more, see [Acad Emerg Med](#); 2015).

UIHC Ethics Consult Service

[Robert D. Sparks Writing Contest](#)

The purpose of this contest is to examine the influences of history, ethics, culture, literature, philosophy, sociology, or related frameworks on medicine, the practice of medicine, and the human condition.

Two \$1,200 awards will be given to the best submissions that examine a significant issue in medicine using ethical, historical, or cultural perspectives. This competition is open to all medical students and physician assistant students enrolled in the UI Carver College of Medicine.

Deadline for entry: March 22, 2016
Length: 2500-5000 words

For more information, please click [here](#).

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, please click [here](#).

Clinical Research Ethics Consultation Service

The American Osler Society

[William B. Bean Student Research Award](#)

DEADLINE: March 1, 2016

The American Osler Society announces the availability of an award for support of research in the broad areas of medical history and medical humanities. Candidates must be currently matriculated students in approved schools of medicine in the United States or Canada. The successful applicant may be eligible to present a paper based on his or her findings at the annual meeting of the American Osler Society. The stipend for the coming year will be \$1,500, and up to \$750 additional may be available to support travel to the annual meeting contingent on submission of a paper acceptable to the Committee at the conclusion of the studentship. If you would like more information, please click [here](#).

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, please click [here](#).

Post-Baccalaureate Program in Biomedical Ethics Research

The Mayo Clinic Biomedical Ethics Program seeks applicants for a one-year post-baccalaureate research experience in empirical bioethics research, as part of the Mayo Clinic Graduate Research Employment Program (GREP). Students will participate in educational activities and conduct bioethics research in a mentored environment. GREP is designed for individuals who have completed a bachelor's degree and plan to attend graduate school or medical school. Eligible candidates must have received their bachelor's degree before the position starts. GREP students are eligible to take graduate-level courses through the Mayo Graduate School. The position is ideal for students interested in a "gap year" between their undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Two post-baccalaureate research fellows will be selected for the 2016-2017 academic year. We anticipate that these research fellows will begin their positions in the summer of 2016. The position may be extended beyond one year at the discretion of the supervisor but will not exceed a total of two years.

Qualifications:

To be eligible, students must have completed their bachelor's degree before the position start date and must be pursuing medical/graduate school admission. Students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. All students must pass a background check and post-offer placement assessment prior to their start date. Students must have completed coursework in bioethics or a closely related discipline such as behavioral psychology, ethics/philosophy, medical anthropology/sociology, pre-med, or public health. The successful applicants will be:

- committed to pursuing a career in which they will engage topics in biomedical ethics
- able to work independently
- proficient in written and verbal communication
- competent in identifying relevant peer-reviewed publications on specialized research topics
- highly motivated to learn new research methods

To Apply:

Interested applicants should email the following materials to bioethics@mayo.edu by **March 18, 2016**.

1. Cover letter describing your career goals and how biomedical ethics research relates to those goals
2. Resume/CV that includes your major, relevant coursework, honors, and related experiences
3. A 5-10 page writing sample (such as a course paper), preferably on a topic in biomedical ethics
4. Current college transcript
5. Two letters of recommendation from research mentors or undergraduate teachers (addressed to Dr. Richard Sharp, Program Director). *Letters should be sent directly by the recommender and must be received by the application deadline.*

For more information, contact Dr. Jessica Hirsch, Biomedical Ethics Education Coordinator at 507-538-4023 or Hirsch.jessica@mayo.edu.

For all other questions, please contact Dr. Richard R. Sharp, Director of the Biomedical Ethics Research Program at bioethics@mayo.edu.

To unsubscribe from the Bioethics and Humanities monthly Newsletter, please click [here](#).

Laura Shinkunas
Editor, Bioethics and Humanities Newsletter
Program in Bioethics and Humanities
500 Newton Road, 1-110 MEB
(319) 384-4654
laura-shinkunas@uiowa.edu

History of Medicine Society

The University of Iowa History of Medicine Society invites you to hear Elizabeth Yale present on "Gender, Memory, and Authority in the Early Modern Medical Print Marketplace" on Thursday, February 25, 2016 from 5:30-6:30 pm in the Medical Education Research Facility (MERF), Room 2117. For more information, [please click here](#).

The University of Iowa History of Medicine Society also invites you to read "[Notes from the John Martin Rare Book Room, January 2016](#)."

The University of Iowa History of Medicine Society (HOMS) and the John Martin Rare Book Room now have a large number of video and audio recordings of HOMS lectures from 1985-2015. To access the recordings, [please click here](#).