

BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM IN BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES



September 2014

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](#)



Program Highlight

The Program in Bioethics and Humanities invites you to hear:

Ethical Issues in Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Testing



Presented by:

[Katherine Wasson, PhD, MPH](#)

Director, Honors Program in Bioethics & Professionalism
Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics
Stritch School of Medicine, Health Sciences Division
Loyola University Chicago

Wednesday, September 24, 2014
10:00am-11:00am
Ziffren Conference Room, 1503 JCP
(near Elevators G/H, main floor UIHC)

Upcoming Events

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

Quotation of the Month

There are no diseases; there are only sick people.... The object of medicine is the human person.... Man is much more than a mass of nerves, tissues, blood and organs. The object of medicine is the suffering person.

- Fulton J. Sheen (1963)

(Referenced in Kim, Curlin, Wolenberg, et al Back to the future: The AMA and religion, 1961-1974. (2014). [Acad Med.](#))

UIHC Ethics Consult Service

Publication Highlight

[Expanding humanities training beyond medical school](#)

by Nicholas Kluesner

(Chief Resident in the Department of Emergency Medicine)

Nicholas Kluesner did his premedical training at the University of Notre Dame, studying biology and philosophy, and received his medical school education at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine with distinctions in service and global health. During his residency years he has continued his interest in medical ethics through research, writing, and education. He has been a member of the Iowa Medical Society's Committee on Law and Ethics for six years and the UIHC's Ethics Subcommittee for two years.

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](#).

Resource Highlight



[Clinical Ethics: A Practical Approach to Ethical Decisions in Clinical Medicine \(7th ed.\)](#)

Albert R. Jonsen, Mark Siegler, William J. Winslade

This book is about the ethical issues that healthcare providers encounter in caring for patients. It is arranged to follow the four-box model. Each chapter is devoted to one of the four topics (medical indications, patient preferences, quality of life, and contextual features). Each chapter begins with some general considerations and ethical principles most relevant to that topic. A series of questions that exemplify major issues under each topic are posed. Clinical situations that commonly generate ethical problems associated with that topic are stated and illustrated by cases. A comment that provides a distillation of prevailing opinion from the bioethical literature follows, and each chapter concludes with recommendations that the three authors formulate from their own extensive experience as clinicians and clinical ethics consultants.

Clinical Research Ethics Consultation 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, [please click here](#).

Bioethics in the Literature

- Salloch S, Vollmann J, Schildmann J. Ethics by opinion poll? The functions of attitudes research for normative deliberations in medical ethics. [J Med Ethics](#). 2014 Sept; 40: 597-602.
- Kass N. Ebola, ethics, and public health: What next? [Ann Intern Med](#). 2014 Aug 19. [Epub ahead of print]
- Bernat JL. Whither brain death? [Am J Bioeth](#). 2014 Aug; 14: 3-8.
- Barrie S. QALYs, euthanasia and the puzzle of death. [J Med Ethics](#). 2014 Jul 31. [Epub ahead of print]



-
- Curran KA. Too much information--the ethics of self-disclosure. [N Engl J Med](#). 2014 Jul; 371: 8-9.
 - Sawicki NN. Clinicians' involvement in capital punishment--constitutional implications. [N Engl J Med](#). 2014 Jul; 371: 103-105.
 - Kim DT, Curlin FA, Wolenberg KM, et al. Back to the future: The AMA and religion, 1961-1974. [Acad Med](#). 2014 Jun 20. [Epub ahead of print]
 - Moyer MW. Twitter opens its cage. [Scientific American](#). 2014 June; 310: 16.
 - Pinxten W, Howard HC. Ethical issues raised by whole genome sequencing. [Best Pract Res Clin Gastroenterol](#). 2014 Apr; 28: 269-279.
 - Weinstock D. Conscientious refusal and health professionals: does religion make a difference? [Bioethics](#). 2014 Jan; 28: 8-15.
-

Bioethics in Space



[Health Standards for Long Duration and Exploration Spaceflight](#)

Ethical Principles, Responsibilities, and Decision Framework

Institute of Medicine Report

Released: April 2, 2014

As the US space program evolves, propelled in part by increasing international and commercial collaborations, long duration or exploration spaceflights – such as extended stays on the International Space Station or missions to Mars – become more realistic. These types of missions will likely expose crews to levels of known risk that are beyond those allowed by current health standards, as well as to a range of risks that are poorly characterized, uncertain, and perhaps unforeseeable. As NASA and Congress discuss the next generation of NASA's missions and the US role in international space efforts, it is important to understand the ethical factors that drive decision making about health standards and mission design for NASA activities.

NASA asked the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to outline the ethics principles and practices that should guide the agency's decision making for future long duration or exploration missions that fail to meet existing health standards. The IOM's report identifies an ethics framework, which builds on the work of NASA and others, and presents a set of recommendations for ethically assessing and responding to the challenges associated with health standards for long duration and exploration spaceflight.

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