

MEDICAL ETHICS

2022/2023 1st year General Medicine

SEMINAR 1. Medicine, its nature, and goals

Medicine and its nature. Concept of health and disease. Goals of medicine. Physician-patient relationship, its historical evolution, and current models. Shared-decision making.

SEMINAR 2. The morality of medical intervention

Ethics and morality. Medical ethics and professionalism. Human act and moral agent. Physician's freedom and responsibility. Justification of medical intervention.

SEMINAR 3. Ethical reasoning in medical practice

Moral reasoning and ethical theories. Utilitarian ethics. Deontological ethics. Virtue ethics. Medicine as a caring enterprise. Virtues in medicine. Physician's compassion and practical wisdom.

SEMINAR 4. Autonomy and relationality in medicine

Principlism and respect for patient autonomy. Autonomy and its limits. Relationality and dependence. Informed consent. Patient competency. Substituted judgment.

SEMINAR 5. The dignity of the human person in medicine

Human beings, persons, and human dignity. Functionalistic theory of personhood. Ontological theory of personhood. Biological and moral status of the human embryo. Unconscious patient. Mental disability.

SEMINAR 6. Ethics of reproductive medicine

Fertility regulation and contraceptives. Medically induced abortion. Infertility and its treatment. Assisted reproductive technologies. Gametes donation. Surplus embryos. Surrogate motherhood.

SEMINAR 7. Ethics and genetics

Prenatal and postnatal genetic testing. Preimplantation diagnosis. Stem cells research. Gene editing. Gene therapy and genetic modifications beyond therapy. Human cloning.

SEMINAR 8. Intensive care and palliative medicine

Decision-making in intensive care. Critical situations in neonatology. Human suffering, death and dying. Palliative medicine and hospice care. Advance directives.

SEMINAR 9. Physicians and hastening death

Euthanasia, its definition, and typology. History of euthanasia. Arguments for and against euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide. Euthanasia and goals of medicine.

SEMINAR 10. Ethics of organ transplantation

Definitions, typology, and history of organ transplantation. Harvesting organs from living donors. Harvesting organs from deceased donors. Commercialization of the human body.

SEMINAR 11. Justice and equity in healthcare

Theories of justice in healthcare. Access to the healthcare system. Resource allocation. Triage criteria in pandemic. Vaccination and public health. Vulnerable groups.

SEMINAR 12. Biomedical research and experimental treatment

Biomedical research and its nature. Principles of biomedical research. Biomedical deontological codes. Ethics committees. Experimental treatments.

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