

# CLINICAL ETHICS BULLETIN

NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS  
FROM AROUND THE WORLD  
CURATED BY CBME

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## HIGHLIGHTS

**Commentary: What if more terminally ill patients with Covid-19 want to die at home?**

*By Sumytra Menon, Anita Lim, Ryan Friets, Mathavi Senguttuvan // CNA*

Weighs the benefit of allowing high-risk patients with COVID-19 to choose to die at home against public health considerations



## NEWS & ARTICLES

**Scientists raise concerns over UK baby genome sequencing plan**

*By Hannah Devlin // The Guardian*

Expert opinions on the NHS pilot study for whole genome sequencing in newborns.

**Palliative care services to be boosted; topic of death needs open discussion: Ong Ye Kung**

*By Goh Yan Han // The Straits Times*

Summarises governmental efforts to support caregivers and increase palliative care capacity, and addressing the stigma around talking about death.

**End-of-life care needs a reset. Here is how it can be done**

*By Lekshmy Parameswaran // The Straits Times*

Calls for end-of-life care to be centred on compassion and free of societal taboos.



## PUBLICATIONS

**Call to action: empowering patients and families to initiate clinical ethics consultations**

*By Liz Blacker, Amy Scharf, Konstantina Matsoukas, Michelle Colletti, Louis Voigt // Journal of Medical Ethics*

Calls for greater education and knowledge surrounding the ability of stakeholders to request clinical ethics consultations.

**The moral significance of abortion inconsistency arguments**

*By William Simkulet // Asian Bioethics Review*

Argues that "inconsistency arguments" are morally significant and matter to the debate surrounding abortion.

**Non-invasive prenatal testing for "non-medical" traits: Ensuring consistency in ethical decision-making**

*By Hilary Bowman-Smart et al. // American Journal of Bioethics*

Discusses the use of NIPT for screening of "non-medical traits" and its ethical implications, summarising the cases for and against permission.

**Physician responsibility to discuss palliative unproven therapies with out-of-option patients**

*By Omar Kawam, Jon Tilburt, Zubin Master // American Journal of Bioethics*

Argues that under specific circumstances, some unproven and scientifically unsubstantiated interventions may be helpful for out-of-option patients who desire control.

**Responsible use of polygenic risk scores in the clinic: potential benefits, risks and gaps**

*By Polygenic Risk Score Task Force of the International Common Disease Alliance // Nature Medicine*

Outlines how PRSs might be used responsibly to improve human health through addressing key issues such as risk communication and regulatory frameworks.



## BLOG POSTS

**Should pro-choice advocates compromise on abortion?**

*By Bonnie Steinbock // Hastings Bioethics Forum*

Argues that bans on late-term abortions would be acceptable only if certain conditions are met.

**Does zero-COVID worsen health disparities?**

*By Nancy Jecker // JME Blog*

Argues that COVID policies targeting zero deaths may jeopardise the wellness of marginalised people and increase health inequity.

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