

CLINICAL ETHICS BULLETIN

NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD
CURATED BY CBME

Apr 2022, ISSUE 5

NEWS & ARTICLES

Court rules in favour of father who wants his 16-year-old child vaccinated but whose ex-wife opposes

By Lydia Lam // Channel News Asia

The views of a sufficiently mature and intelligent 16-year-old was a relevant and key factor to ascertain what was in her best interests.

GP linked to Healing the Divide group suspended over allegations of injecting patients with saline

By Kok Yufeng // The Straits Times

GP's suspension over injecting saline instead of vaccinations provides an example of the consequences of failing to meet clinical and ethical standards of medical care provision.

This healthcare practice robs many seniors of vitality and life in their twilight years

By Ranjana Srivastava // The Guardian

Increased prescription of sedatives and other chemical forms of restraint reveals an inadequate and dangerous model of care for the elderly.

'I'll have a choice': Women welcome elective egg freezing move, despite age limit and cost concerns

By Ang Hwee Min // Channel News Asia

Despite issues with the white paper such as marital status to use the frozen eggs, age limit of 35, and high cost of the procedure, the move to permit elective egg freezing in Singapore is being lauded by many women.

The Cruel Lesson of a Single Medical Mistake

By Daniela J. Lamas // The New York Times

When it comes to medical errors, healthcare professionals must be supported by systems that not only organise patient information and place checks on correct administration of care, but also empower them to speak up against traditional hierarchies or seek help.

Police partnering IMH crisis response team to better help cases of attempted suicide

By Aqil Haziq Mahmud // Channel News Asia

A new crisis response model partnering the police and the Institute of Mental Health is working towards reducing stigma of seeking mental health and filling gaps in handling family violence cases.

PUBLICATIONS

Professional Oversight of Emergency-Use Interventions and Monitoring Systems: Ethical Guidance From the Singapore Experience of COVID-19

By Tamra Lysaght, Gerald Owen Schaefer, Teck Chuan Voo, Hwee Lin Wee, and Roy Joseph // Journal of Bioethical Inquiry

As an alternative to MEURI and other international ethics frameworks on the subject, the authors propose a new guidance system for ethical provision of experimental interventions to treat COVID-19 in the Singaporean context.

Autonomy concerns with using contracts to enhance patient adherence

By Camila Losada Strassle, Ben Schwan, and Benjamin E. Berkman // Bioethics

Contracts to avoid non-adherence of patients to medication and other care requirements threaten to diminish a patient's autonomy even if they voluntarily agree to the contract.

Ethical decision-making climate, moral distress, and intention to leave among ICU professionals in a tertiary academic hospital center

By Henry Silverman, Tracey Wilson, Samuel Tisherman, Raya Kheirbek, Trishna Mukherjee, et al. // BMC Medical Ethics

A cross-sectional questionnaire based study involving 206 nurses and doctors in a large urban academic hospital indicates significant differences in perceptions of ethical climate, levels of moral distress, and the desire to leave between the two sets of professionals.

Surgery should be routinely videoed

By Edwin Jesudason // Journal of Medical Ethics

The author argues that routine videoing of surgery should be the standard of care, where counter claims on liability, privacy and confidentiality are resolved through appropriate consent processes.

A Clinician's Obligation to be Vaccinated: Four Arguments that Establish a Duty for Healthcare Professionals to be Vaccinated Against COVID-19

By Johan Christiaan Bester // Journal of Bioethical Inquiry

Clinicians have obligations to (1) protect patients against the spread of COVID-19, (2) maintain professional availability and competence, (3) encourage vaccination uptake, (4) and to contribute to mitigative efforts against the pandemic owing to their role in society.

BLOG POSTS

Respect for autonomy in medical ethics: it's more complicated than you think

By Xavier Symons and Susan Pennings // JME Blog

The authors suggest that the problem of inappropriately adaptive preferences catering to unjust social conditions inherently ails conventional accounts of autonomy.

'Overriding Adolescent Refusals of Treatment'

By Anthony Skelton, Lisa Forsberg, and Isra Black // Practical Ethics

Presents a 'well-being' view of adolescent consent to treatment that may justify the concurrent consent doctrine, which allows adolescents to permit treatment but retains the power of parental or judicial authority to consent upon refusal.

Mainstream media narratives and the "othering" of migrant workers in Singapore

By Jane Lim, Voo Teck Chuan, and Mathavi Senguttuvan // Epidemic Ethics Blogs

A preliminary analysis of mainstream media in Singapore reflects 'othering' narratives amplifying pre-existing vulnerabilities of migrant workers during the pandemic.

VIDEOS

CENTRES Clinical Ethics Conference 2022 - Panel Discussion: Singapore's New Medical Disclosure and Advice Requirements—Implications for Healthcare Professionals

- Panel members: A/P Devanand Anantham, Dr Tan Choon Chieh and Ms Vanessa Yong

Many healthcare professionals in Singapore may still have unanswered questions on the impact of the new section 37 of the Civil Law Act, which codifies the country's standard of information disclosure and advice. This panel discussion, chaired by A/P Roy Joseph and Dr Sumytra Menon, aimed to facilitate participants' understanding of the effect the new law has on actual practice illustrated using four cases.

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