

# CLINICAL ETHICS BULLETIN

NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS  
FROM AROUND THE WORLD  
CURATED BY CBME

September 2022, Issue 10

## NEWS & ARTICLES

### **Doctor fined for secretly prescribing cough syrup to treat addicted patients who refused help at IMH**

*By Daryl Choo // Today*

A doctor has been fined for prescribing cough syrup containing codeine to patients without maintaining proper medical records.

### **"We had such trust, we feel such fools": how shocking hospital mistakes led to our daughter's death**

*By Merope Mills // The Guardian*

A story of how institutional failures lead to disaster, raising questions of the nature of the doctor-patient relationship.

### **Singapore conducts living donor liver transplant on stage 4 colorectal cancer patient**

*By Clara Chong // The Straits Times*

Surgeons in Singapore have performed the first liver transplant on a patient with stage 4 colorectal cancer - previously, such patients did not qualify for transplants.

### **Why gender is at heart of the matter for cardiac illness**

*By Sian Harding // The Guardian*

Attempts to examine why studies show that women with heart disease are more likely to be misdiagnosed initially compared to men.

### **Long overdue healthcare reforms through Healthier SG, but real challenges lie ahead**

*By Jeremy Lim // Today*

Examines the White Paper on healthcare reform which proposes far-reaching reforms, arguing that while such changes are overdue, implementation will be challenging and it remains to be seen if they will be successful.

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Against over-protectionism: Riskier decisions require clearer evidence of capacity but don't call for stricter criteria**

*By Manuel Trachsel and Paul Appelbaum // American Journal of Bioethics*

Contests the claim that persons should sometimes be judged to lack capacity solely because of the harmfulness of their decision.

### **An autonomy-based approach to assisted suicide: a way to avoid the expressivist objection against assisted dying laws**

*By Esther Braun // Journal of Medical Ethics*

Uses an autonomy-based approach to argue around the expressivist objection to legalising assisted dying.

### **Nudges and hard choices**

*By Sarah Zoe Raskoff // Bioethics*

Argues that many significant medical decisions are hard choices which provide patients with opportunities to exercise formative autonomy, and since nudges risk infringing

### **An emerging pattern? A further case of anticipated capacity loss in pregnancy: North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust v SR [2021] EWCOP 58**

*By Aimee Hulme // Medical Law Review*

Case commentary on the SR case where the Court of Protection made an anticipatory declaration that it was lawful for a capacitous pregnant woman to be subject to possible forcible treatment contingent on her losing capacity before or during birth.

### **Involving parents in paediatric clinical ethics committee deliberations: a current controversy**

*By David Archard, Emma Cave, Joe Brierley // Journal of Medical Ethics*

Argues that while it is good practice to ensure that patient's voices are heard in ethics processes, how that is achieved is controversial, and comments on the approach in the Verden case.

## BLOG POSTS

### **The moral elephant in the room - Patient morality in psychiatry**

*By Doug McConnell, Matthew Broome, Julian Savulescu // Practical Ethics*

Addresses why the authors wrote a recent paper justifying and developing a practical ethical guide for psychiatric involvement in patient moral growth.

### **Fetal alcohol syndrome and abortion**

*By Simon Cushing // JME Blog*

Rebuts Hendricks' paper that argued moral objections to causing impairments in utero should lead to equal if not greater objection towards abortion.

## VIDEOS/ PODCASTS

### **FAB Gab Episode 24: Serene Ong on definitions of the family**

*By Serene Ong // IJFAB*

Discusses the paper: "Who counts as family: A pluralistic account of family in the genetic context"

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Seminar Series - Healthcare Ethics and Law**

*Dr. Sumytra Menon and A/Prof. Lee See Miah*

3, 17, 31 Oct 2022, 6.00pm to 8.00pm SGT on Zoom  
Centre for Biomedical Ethics

### **Core Module in Healthcare Ethics, Law & Professionalism (For Allied Healthcare Professionals)**

*Ms Audrey Lim, Dr. Sumytra Menon and Dr Issac Sia*

5, 7 December 2022, 9.00am to 12.50pm SGT on Zoom  
Centre for Biomedical Ethics

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