

Inaugural Asian Paediatric Ethics Conference 2nd and 3rd October 2023



Symposium 3 speaker

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Dr. Kumudhini Rajasegaran, is a paediatrician and senior consultant in the Adolescent Medicine Service, at KK Women's & Children's Hospital. Dr. Kumu is also a member of the Clinical Ethics Committee at KKH, a visiting consultant at the Eating Disorder Unit, at Singapore General Hospital, one of the lead clinicians of the Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Team, and an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Duke National University Singapore Medical School. She received her medical training at the University College Dublin, Ireland.

Dr Kumu was successful at developing Adolescent Medicine as a distinct sub-specialty and multidisciplinary service. She also played a key role in the development and growth of specialised obesity and eating disorder programmes within KKH. Dr Kumu is actively involved in projects aimed at facilitating better communication and collaboration between community resources, and different government sectors.

Presentation title: Ethical Issues in Adolescent Health

Abstract

Adolescence is a transitional period of development that typically occurs between childhood and adulthood. This period varies in length but generally spans from the onset of puberty to the attainment of full adult status, which may include legal rights and responsibilities.

While adolescence is a time of growth and opportunity, it can also be challenging, and support from caregivers, educators, and mental health professionals is often crucial in helping adolescents navigate this complex period of development.

Providing clinical care to at-risk adolescents and adolescents with mental health issues is a complex and ethically challenging task. These young individuals often face unique circumstances that require healthcare professionals to navigate a range of ethical dilemmas. This talk will focus on ethical issues arising from the clinical care of at-risk adolescents and those with mental health issues.