

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



Symposium 3 speaker

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I trained in Neonatology in the UK (Neonatal rotations in Southampton, Bristol and Portsmouth) and was appointed as a Consultant Neonatologist in the regional NICU at University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust in 2009. I am at present, a Consultant Neonatologist at Singapore General Hospital since June 2013.

My areas of interest in my specialty include ethical issues in perinatal medicine and I also have an interest neonatal neurology.

I was a co-organiser for the LCPC Neonatal Ethics and End of Life Care Education Week and Workshop, Singapore in 2016. I was also a workgroup member of the LCPC/DukeNUS Guidance on Supportive and Comfort Care in Vulnerable babies published in 2018. I was involved in the revision of SNRC guidelines 2021 (sub section on withholding/discontinuing resuscitation)

Presentation title: Neonatal Encephalopathy

Abstract

Ethical dilemmas are common in Neonatology and whilst some are more easily resolved (e.g., severe congenital anomalies, babies at borderline viability), management decisions on term neonates with NE can be a particular challenge. Here the pregnancy is relatively straightforward, and problems usually happen unexpectedly during labour and birth.

In my talk I will cover the common ethical dilemmas faced in the care of babies with NE in the context of traditional ethical frameworks. I will also try and outline a practical pathway to address these challenges.