

CLINICAL ETHICS BULLETIN

NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD
CURATED BY CBME

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NEWS & ARTICLES

Patients' experiences of disease should be taken more seriously, says study

By Andrew Gregory // The Guardian

The 'doctor knows best' narrative continues to dominate patient-professional interactions. But patient experiences and reasoning can offer significant insights into making a more accurate diagnosis.

Healthcare workers need better protection from abuse; new measures in place by June 2024: Ong Ye Kung

By Lee Li Ying // The Straits Times

A new Tripartite Framework for the Prevention of Abuse and Harassment in Healthcare has been launched by a Ministry of Health workgroup, which includes relevant definitions, guidelines on protecting healthcare workers and managing abusive patients, and standardised protocols to be followed in case of any incidents.

Artificial intelligence is already in our hospitals. 5 questions people want answered

By Stacy Carter, Emma Frost, Farah Magrabi, and Yves Saint Jaes Aquino // The Conversation

While the potential value of AI in healthcare is being increasingly acknowledged by most consumers, acceptance is still largely conditional.

"When does life end? A father didn't believe his daughter was dead. He says the hospital still harvested her organs"

By Ann Neumann // The Guardian

This article provides some context behind O'Connor v Fresno Community Hospital & Medical Center et al, and deeper reflections on how for many, a declaration of brain death signifies a route to procure organs without consent.

Commentary: The 'carebots' are coming - how will they shape eldercare in Singapore?

By Kathryn Muyskens // Channel News Asia

Thanks to AI, caregiving robots can now potentially fill a 'care deficit' by mimicking interpersonal interactions. But this technology is limited in its ability to create real human connection.

MOH seeks public feedback on proposed framework to share health information among healthcare providers

No author // Channel News Asia

Public consultation is now being sought to the proposed 'Health Information Bill' which will introduce a framework to regulate the collection, access, use, and sharing of different types of health-related information across the Singaporean healthcare ecosystem.

PUBLICATIONS

Should AI allocate livers for transplant? Public attitudes and ethical considerations

By Max Drezga-Kleiminger, Joanna Demaree-Cotton, Julian Koplin, Julian Savulescu and Dominic Wilkinson // BMC Medical Ethics

A survey of 172 UK-based respondents' attitudes towards the use of AI in liver allocations indicates acceptance by the majority. This study argues that such democratic legitimacy combined with due consideration for identified ethical concerns could help further discussion and investigation in this context.

Data Breach Notification Laws—Momentum Across the Asia-Pacific Region

By Megan Pictor // Journal of Bioethical Inquiry

Provides a broad overview of recent updates to personal/health data regulations mandating data breach notifications across various jurisdictions in the Asia-Pacific region, including Australia, Singapore, India, New Zealand, and the Philippines.

The myth of translational bioethics

By Michael Dunn and Mark Sheehan // Bioethics

Is there truly a translational gap between the theoretical and practical aspects of bioethics? Perhaps not, argue the authors.

The misplaced embryo: legal parenthood in 'embryo mix-up' cases

By Shelly Simana, Vardit Ravitsky, and I Glenn Cohen // Journal of Medical Ethics

This essay lays out four possible approaches under common law to decide parenthood in cases involving mix-ups of embryos, and concludes that formulating and consistently applying legislations or guidelines in that regard are preferable to relying solely on judges making case-by-case decisions.

Truth-telling to the seriously ill child – Nurses' experiences, attitudes, and beliefs

By Mandy El Ali, Sharon Licqurish, Jenny O'Neill, and Lynn Gillam // Nursing Ethics

A systematic review of literature on nurses' role in truth-telling and disclosure highlights a significant knowledge gap about paediatric nurses' attitudes and beliefs in truth-telling to seriously ill children.

BLOG POSTS

The delicate balance between aggressive treatments and palliative care

By Ilaria Bertini // JME Blog

The tale of Indi Gregory, the critically ill 8-month-old baby who experienced severe pain and suffering from various aggressive, invasive treatments, and eventually passed away in hospice after the Court ordered the withdrawal of such treatment in her best interests.

Does Calling Severe Anorexia a Terminal Condition Matter?

By Paul T Menzel // Hastings Bioethics Forum

The author believes classifying extreme, end-stage Anorexia Nervosa as a terminal condition is irrelevant to the main issue in these cases - continuous force-feeding becomes no more justifiable as a result.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CENTRES Clinical Ethics Conference 2024: Revisiting Best Interests [Fully subscribed!]

Dates: 11-12 January 2024

Venue: Kent Ridge Guild House, NUS

Educators' Course in Healthcare Ethics, Law & Professionalism (for Pharmacists)

Save the date. Registration will open in 2024.

Dates: 6, 9, 16 May 2024

Mode: In-person

Educators' Course in Healthcare Ethics, Law & Professionalism (for Nurses)

Save the date. Registration will open in 2024.

Dates: 18, 20, 27 June 2024

Mode: In-person

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