

Requirements

Semmelweis University	Educational Unit:
Faculty of Medicine	Institute of Behavioural Sciences
Name of the course: Fogorvosi etika (Bioethics-Dental ethics)	
Type of the course: compulsory elective	
code: FOKVMAG113_1A	
credit: 2 credits	
Presenter of the course: Dr. József Kovács	
Semester: 2017/18 I.	
Course objectives:	
a.) To enable students to recognize ethical issues when encountered in everyday clinical practice and research	
b.) To provide students with a conceptual-logical system, which helps them to address ethical questions and to resolve ethical dilemmas in an efficient way	
c.) To introduce students to a body of knowledge, which helps them to understand, respect and protect the rights of patient research subjects and fellow health care professionals	
d.) To help the would be health care professional to understand the responsibility of the individual, of the health care system and of the society as a whole in maintaining health	
Course Syllabus:	
1. week (Lecture)	
<u>Basic concepts of ethics.</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Descriptive ethics, normative ethics, metaethics.• General ethics and applied ethics.• Bioethics, medical ethics, health care ethics. Similarities and differences.• The role of bioethics in a pluralistic society.• The relationship between law and ethics.• Reasoning in ethics. The most common mistakes.	
2. week. (Practicals) <u>Normative theories of ethics.</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deontological theories of ethics. (The Golden Rule, Kant and the categorical imperative, the principle of double effect, W.D. Ross and the prima facie duties,)• Teleological theories of ethics. (Act and rule utilitarianism.)• Theories of natural law.	

- Contractarian theories of ethics. (The theory of justice of John Rawls)

3. week. (Lecture)

The basic principles of medical ethics.

- The principle of respect for autonomy.
- The principle of non-maleficence.
- The principle of beneficence.
- The principle of justice.
- Arguments against „principalism”.

4. week. (Practicals)

The concept of health and disease.

- Naturalistic definitions of health.
- The medical model of defining health.
- Normativist definitions of health.
- Some questions of psychiatric ethics.

5. week. (Lecture)

Informed consent.

- Simple consent and paternalism in medicine.
- The emergence of the doctrine of informed consent.
- Standards for information disclosure for patients.
- When is informed consent not necessary?
- Standards of competence and incompetence.
- The right to refuse medical treatment.
- Some psychological and communicational aspects of informed consent.

6. week (Practicals)

Information disclosure to terminally ill patients. Telling the truth to patients.

- The history of information disclosure to terminally ill patients.

- Pros and cons for lying to terminally ill patients.
- The weaknesses of the arguments in favour of lying.
- The dying process according to E. Kübler-Ross.
- How to communicate the bad news to terminally ill patients.
- The physicians's relationship with the relatives of the deceased patient.

7. week (Lecture).

Justice in Health Care I. Ethical questions of macroallocation.

- Higher and lower level macroallocational problems.
- The role of personal responsibility in maintaining health.
- The principles and practice of rationing in contemporary health care systems. (Soft and hard rationing.)
- Medical ethics and medical economics. Ethical questions of cost-benefit and cost effectiveness analysis. The QALY.
- The problem of right to health care. (The libertarian, the liberal and the socialist views about the right to health care.)
- The role of the market and that of the state in the health care system.
- Ethical problems of financing health care. (Fee-for-service, capitation, fixed salary, DRG-system, etc.)
- Setting health care priorities in Oregon.
- Attempts to define a just health care system.

8. week (Practicals)

Ethical questions of reproductive medicine.

- Abortion.
- Artificial insemination from donor.
- In vitro fertilization, surrogate motherhood.
- Ethical questions of genetic counselling.
- Ethical questions of embryo experimentation.

9. week. (Lecture)

Justice in Health Care II. Ethical questions of microallocation. Moral dilemmas in the allocation of scarce

medical resources.

- The concept of microallocation.
- Ethical analysis of various selection criteria. (Medical benefit, psychological ability, supportive environment, social value criterion, resources required criterion, age, ability to pay, random selection, personal responsibility for the illness, etc.)

10. week. (Practicals)

Ethical questions of animal experimentation.

- History of the thinking about the moral status of animals.
- The philosophical significance of the Darwinian conception of nature.
- The views of Peter Singer: antispeciesism.
- The views of Tom Regan: animal rights.
- Ethical questions of experimentation on animals on the basis of a moderate animal protectionist's view.
- Critical anthropomorphism.
- Alternatives to animal experimentation.

11. week. (Lecture)

Euthanasia and the withholding of life-sustaining treatment

- Definitions.
- The sanctity of life versus the quality of life doctrine.
- Is there any difference between active and passive euthanasia?
- The practice of active euthanasia in the Netherlands. The Rummelink Report.
- Refusal of life sustaining treatment by competent and incompetent patients.
- Possibilities to extend the autonomy of patients: living will, durable power of attorney, substituted judgement, etc.
- The concept of medically futile treatment.
- Ethical problems of the treatment of handicapped newborns. (The debate about the treatment of spina

bifida babies, the Baby Doe case, the legal situation, etc.)

12. week (Practicals)

Ethical questions of human experimentation.

- Possible forms of experimentation on humans.
- Contradiction between the two roles of the physician. (Healer and scientist.)
- The ethics of Randomized Controlled Clinical Trials. (RCT)
- Randomization and prerandomization.

13. week (Lecture)

Ethical questions of organ- and tissue transplantation.

- Some problems of justice concerning kidney transplantation and chronic haemodialysis.
- Ethical questions of transplantation from living kidney donors.
- The concept of death.
- Ethical questions of organ harvesting from the dead.
- The debate about the market of organs.
- Ethical questions of using embryo- or foetal tissue in human therapy.
- Ethical problems of using anencephal newborns as organ donors.

14. week (Practicals)

The rights of patients.

- The role of patient's rights in the transformation of the paternalistic physician-patient relationship.
- Moral versus legal rights.
- A list of basic rights of patients.
- Mechanisms to ensure the realizations of patient's rights. (Patient's rights advocates, ombudsman, hospital ethics committees, institutional review boards, arbitration, etc.)

Participation and making up for absences:

A signature will be given with the prerequisite of participation (minimum 75% of the lectures and seminars). It is possible to make up for an absence by participating in another seminar group.

Justification of the absence in the lectures and examinations: Medical certificate

Checks during the semester (reports, written checks) :

Number of checks during the semester: 1

<p>Type: written exam on the 9th week.</p> <p>Subjects: the material of practice weeks 1-8 and the relevant chapters of the textbook.</p> <p>It is possible to make up for an absence or correct grade by oral exam.</p>
<p>Requirements for the signature at the end of the semester:</p> <p>Participation of 75% of the lectures and seminars. Successful written or oral exam.</p>
<p>Method of the calculation of marks:</p> <p>The result of the exam</p>
<p>Type of the exam: kollokvium</p>
<p>Requirements for the exam: Successful written exam or the successful oral exam</p>
<p>Application for the exam: Through the Neptun system.</p>
<p>Changing the application for the exam: Through the Neptun system.</p>
<p>Justification of the absence from the exam: Announcing it at the secretariat of the Institute</p>
<p>Course and recommended text books:</p> <p>Conrad Fischer—Caterina Oneto (2009): USMLE Medical Ethics.: The 100 cases you are most likely to see on the exam (Second edition) New York: Kaplan Publishing 13-ISBN: 978-1-4195-5314-1</p>