Ethics Center Journal Club Discussion

“Requests for Nondisclosure”

RRUCLA & SMUCLA

Wednesday, November 10, 2021
12 - 1pm
Via Zoom

Facilitated by:
Daniel E. Callies, PhD

Zoom Link: https://uclahs.zoom.us/j/94196014623?pwd=QkJvOW5SUGZjOTRjNjREOXNqeEZRZz09
Meeting ID # 941 9601 4623
Password: 121212

--Thank you!--
Article for Discussion


About the Course:

Lecture: The turn away from the paternalistic model of medicine that took place in the second half of the 20th century led to a focus on the informed consent of patients. Informed consent requires that health care providers disclose material information regarding a patient’s diagnosis and possible treatments. But what ought providers do when patients’ families request that a diagnosis not be disclosed? For instance, what ought a provider do when diagnostic workup reveals a diagnosis of metastatic cancer for an elderly patient, and the patient’s family requests that this diagnosis not be disclosed? In this November Journal Club, we’ll explore the ethics of requests for non-disclosure, and pay special attention to: (1) when such requests arise and how they are handled; (2) whether intentional non-disclosure can ever be ethically justified; and (3) the role that the concept of capacity plays in requests for non-disclosure.

Speaker: Daniel Edward Callies is the Senior Clinical Ethics Fellow with the UCLA Health Ethics Center. He received his Ph.D. in Philosophy from Goethe Universität Frankfurt (Germany) in 2018. Before joining UCLA, he held positions at UCSD’s Institute for Practical Ethics (2018-2021), the Université catholique de Louvain (2017), and Harvard University (2016-2017). His current research focuses on just health care resource allocation, and physician obligations with respect to futile medical treatment.

Who should attend: This discussion is intended for nurses, physicians, clinical social workers and health care professionals at all levels of practice.

Discussion questions:

1. What experiences have you had with requests for non-disclosure? How have you handled such requests?

2. Can intentional non-disclosure ever be justified? Or ought health care providers always to disclose pertinent medical information to their patients?

3. What role does the concept of capacity play in requests for non-disclosure?

4. How are requests for non-disclosure different for pediatric patients compared to adult patients?

This course is offered free of charge. Attendees should contact UCLA Health Ethics Center at (310) 794-6219 if you need special accommodations or have questions or concerns.