

2019—2020 Bioethics Study Group Series

All study groups are held from 12:00—1:00 pm in the Lamfrom Biomedical Research Building (LBRB), room 381

October 9, 2019

Walking the Line: A Day in the Life of a Patient Advocate



Melissa Monner, M.S.

The title “patient advocate” can sometimes be confusing for both patient and providers who have expectations around this title-- leaving each at times feeling disappointed and at other times supported. Patient advocacy is less about speaking and more about listening, less about aligning and more about staying neutral, less about making someone satisfied and more about doing the right thing.



December 4, 2019

Ethical Issues in Clinical Genetics and Genomics



Susan Olson, Ph.D.

The discussion will revolve around ethical dilemmas in the current era of genetic testing, including direct to consumer testing, research data usage and sharing with third parties (privacy/confidentiality), predictive testing of children, duty to warn, and right to know/right not to know.

January 15, 2020

Humpty Dumpty and the Medical Model of Disability



West Livaudais, M.P.H.

The medical model of disability could not put Humpty Dumpty together again. This conversation will explore issues that arise when the medical model of disability makes assumptions about the quality of life of a patient after the traumatic onset of disability. We will also explore the role that the disabilities communities play to enrich medical assumptions about quality of life through the use of community health workers with disabilities.

The Center for Ethics in Health Care is pleased to present the 2019-2020 season of the Bioethics Study Group (BSG) Series. These interactive, inter-professional conversations with colleagues are a practical strategy for exploring current ethical issues in healthcare.

You are welcome to bring your lunch and invite your colleagues to join us for discussion.

If you have questions or are interested in being added to the Bioethics Study Group email list, please contact Molly Willis, willima@ohsu.edu.

February 12, 2020

Standing with the Unrepresented Patient



Heidi Funke, R.N.



Keren McCord,
L.C.S.W., O.S.W.-C.

In this talk we will introduce how OHSU currently assists unrepresented patients with decision making when they lack capacity. Keren McCord & Heidi Funke, two members of the Ethics Consult Service, will talk about the Healthcare Surrogate Committee. This Committee was formed to represent patients who lack capacity and have no legal Next of Kin. In addition to discussing the policies that underpin this committee, Ms. McCord and Ms. Funke will talk about benefits and struggles that this committee has had as well. There will be time for attendees to engage in a case review study to get a better sense on how the committee functions.

April 8, 2020

When Parents Ask to Stop Nutrition/Hydration for their Seriously Ill Children



Sara Taub, M.D.

A vast body of literature makes it seem as though questions around withdrawing administered nutrition and hydration have been carefully addressed and mostly resolved. Using a spectrum of cases, this session explores how existing guidelines help illuminate black and white cases, though leave health care professionals and families with little direction in navigating the gray of real life.

May 13, 2020

Mandatory Health Requirements for Elective Surgery



Donna Kim, M.D.

This session will explore ethical dilemmas regarding health policies that require smoking cessation prior to undergoing elective surgical procedures