The Daniel Labby Seminar in Medical Ethics

Presents

See Through Genes - How Much Are You Revealing?

Wednesday, May 26
12:00–1:00PM
Join us via WebEx [HERE]
Genetic testing is widespread in healthcare; 26 million people had purchased direct to consumer DNA tests as of early 2019. This number is growing exponentially. But few people fully comprehend the implications of this new technology. Dilemmas arising from this information will present many of the leading ethical challenges in the 21st Century.

Join us and our expert guest panelists as we work through two cases that exemplify some of the key issues in ethics and genetics. See below for a synopsis of the cases!

Case #1:
You work at a fertility clinic where a deaf couple using in vitro ("test tube") fertilization has a choice of embryos with and without a gene for deafness. They request the embryo that has the gene for deafness. They feel this would allow them to be a “close” family where language, communication, and social identity could be shared. How do you respond?

Case #2:
Mary is 42 and recently diagnosed with a degenerative neurologic disease that has no treatment. The condition is caused by a defective gene and each of her two currently healthy children, ages 4 and 9, has a 50% chance of carrying the gene and therefore of developing the disease in mid-life. How would you advise her about having her children tested for this condition?