



Medical Ethics

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?What is Ethics

- Ethics is a system of moral principles. They affect how people make decisions and lead their lives.
- Ethics is concerned with what is good for individuals and society and is also described as moral philosophy.

Ethics Dilemmas

- how to live a good life
- our rights and responsibilities
- the language of right and wrong
- moral decisions - what is good and bad?

Basic principles of medical ethics

- A) respect for patient autonomy.
- b) not inflicting harm on patients.
- c) a positive duty to contribute to the welfare of patients .
- d) justice or fair treatment of patients.

Comparison chart

Ethics

- Social system – External

Why we do it?

- Because society says it is the right thing to do.

What if we don't do it?

- We may face peer/societal disapproval, or even be fired from our job.

Moral

- Individual – internal

Why we do it ?

- Because we believe in something being right or wrong.

What if we don't do it?

- Doing something against one's morals and principles can have different effects on different people, they may feel uncomfortable, depressed etc.

Clinical medical ethics is a practical and applied discipline that aims to improve patient care and patient outcomes by focusing on reaching a right and good decision in individual cases.

- It focuses on the doctor-patient relationship and takes account of the ethical and legal issues that patients, doctors, and hospitals must address to reach good decisions for individual patients.

The content of clinical ethics includes

Specific issues such as

- 1. truth-telling,
- 2. informed consent,
- 3. end of life care,
- 4. palliative care,
- 5. allocation of clinical resources,
- 6. the ethics of medical research.

The study of the doctor-patient relationship, including such issues as

1. honesty,
2. competence, integrity,
3. respect for persons.

! The end