

ETHICS AND EVIDENCE IN END-OF-LIFE DECISION MAKING INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES

3rd - 4th APRIL 2014

INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL ETHICS
AND HISTORY OF MEDICINE
RUHR UNIVERSITY BOCHUM

NRW-Junior Research Group
„Medical ethics at the end of life:
norm and empiricism“

Funded by
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PROGRAMME

Thursday 3rd April 2014

13.15 - 13.30 WELCOME

13.30 - 15.00 SESSION 1

END-OF-LIFE DECISIONS. RECENT SOCIO-EMPIRICAL RESEARCH AND ITS RELEVANCE FOR THE ETHICAL DEBATE

- **Agnes van der Heide (Rotterdam)** Current trends in end-of-life decision making in the Netherlands
- **Eva Winkler (Heidelberg)** Limitation of medical treatment
- **Jan Schildmann (Bochum)** Decision making at the end of life in Germany. Findings of recent quantitative and qualitative research

15.00 - 15.30 COFFEE / TEA

15.30 - 17.00 SESSION 2

EMPIRICAL ETHICS RESEARCH ON END-OF-LIFE DECISION MAKING

- **Sebastian Wäscher (Bochum)** Qualitative research on decision making in oncology: empirical results and methodological reflection
- **Ruth Horn (Oxford)** Advance directives in English and French law: Different concepts, different values, different societies
- **Hilde Buiting (Rotterdam)** The facilitating role of chemotherapy in advanced cancer patients: findings from qualitative studies

17.00 - 17.30 COFFEE / TEA

17.30 - 19.00 SESSION 3

THE LAST PHASE OF LIFE. NORMATIVE ANALYSES ON INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETAL ASPECTS

- **Jochen Vollmann (Bochum)** Palliative care exceptionalism? A broader perspective on end-of-life care and modern medicine
- **Søren Holm (Manchester)** Terminal sedation and euthanasia – the virtue in calling a spade what it is
- **Markus Zimmermann-Acklin (Fribourg)** Allocation justice and the care for patients at the end-of-life

19.15 BUFFET

PROGRAMME

Friday 4th April 2014

9.30 - 10.30 SESSION 4

CONCEPTS OF EMPIRICAL-ETHICAL RESEARCH

- **Jonathan Ives (Birmingham)** Staying on the ethical wobble board: Pragmatism, compromise and reflexivity in a methodology for empirical ethics
- **Michael Dunn (Oxford)** Making the evidence count: Epistemological and normative tensions in undertaking empirical ethics research

10.30 - 11.00 COFFEE / TEA

11.00 - 12.00 SESSION 5

EMPIRICAL ETHICS CONCEPTS AND INTERVENTIONS ON END-OF-LIFE DECISION MAKING

- **Sabine Salloch (Bochum)** How to select normative framework for an empirical-ethical intervention study?
- **Marcel Mertz (Cologne)** A prelude to Evidence-based Ethics? - Evidence in ethics and ethical evidence in the transdisciplinary CESS-Project METAP

12.00 - 13.00 LUNCH

13.00 - 14.30 SESSION 6

CLINICAL AND ETHICAL INTERVENTIONS TO IMPROVE END-OF-LIFE PRACTICE

- **Bert Molewijk (Amsterdam/Oslo)** Training healthcare professionals as moral case deliberation facilitators: evaluation of a training programme
- **Massimo Costantini (Genoa)** The effectiveness of the Liverpool Care Pathway in improving end of life care for dying cancer patients in hospital
- **Jennifer Mack (Boston)** Associations between end-of-life discussion characteristics and care received near death: a prospective cohort study

14.30 - 15.00 COFFEE / TEA

15.00 - 16.00 ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

SUPPORTING ETHICAL DECISION MAKING AT THE END OF LIFE. WHERE ARE WE AND WHERE SHOULD WE GO?

Introductory statements: **Anne Slowther (Warwick)**

Guy Widdershoven (Amsterdam)

Topic of the conference

End-of-life decision making has been subject of intensive normative as well as empirical analysis. Traditionally, the question of what constitutes a good end of life is dealt with in the field of normative ethics. However, socio-empirical and clinical research can deliver important information for ethical judgements about end-of-life practice. Moreover, an increasing number of research studies focus on eliciting data which are relevant for ethical considerations near the end of life. In recent years several interventions have been developed which shall support practice and decision making in ethically difficult situations.

The aim of this conference is to bring together researchers from different scientific fields in Europe and the US who are currently conducting research which can further the understanding of end-of-life decision making and stimulate the development of interventions which may support patients, care-givers and healthcare professionals with ethically difficult decisions at the end of life.

Venue

Institute for Medical Ethics and History of Medicine

Ruhr University Bochum

Malakowturm, Markstraße 258a, 44799 Bochum, Germany

Directions:

http://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/malakow/institut/anfahrt_en.html

Organisation

Institute for Medical Ethics and History of Medicine

Director: Prof. Dr. Dr. Jochen Vollmann

NRW-Junior Research Group

„Medical ethics at the end of life: norm and empiricism“

PD Dr. Jan Schildmann, M.A.

Dr. Sabine Salloch, M.A.

Sebastian Wäscher, M.A.

<http://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/malakow/>

Contact and Registration (attendance free, registration required)

PD Dr. Jan Schildmann, M.A.

Head of the NRW-Junior Research Group

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