

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Otago Bioethics Report welcomes articles, reports**

Dr. John McMillan, Editor, *Otago Bioethics Report*, welcomes articles or reports on biomedical ethics from India for publication. His journal incorporates the Newsletter of the Bioethics Research Centre of the University of Otago and carries an editorial, commentaries on ethical issues, book reviews, announcements and much more. Please write to Dr. McMillan at:

Bioethics Research Centre, Medical School, University of Otago, P. O. Box 913, Dunedin, NEW ZEALAND. (Fax: 64 3 474 7601)

## **Educational opportunities in bioethics**

McGill Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law (founded in 1986) offers a graduate course in bioethics. The Faculty of Medicine (Division of Experimental Medicine), Faculty of Religious Studies, Faculty of Arts (Division of Philosophy) and Faculty of Law (Institute of Comparative Law) collaborate for this purpose. For details contact The Chairperson, Bioethics Graduate Studies Executive Committee, McGill Centre for Medicine, Ethics and Law, 3690 Peel Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 1W9.

The Center for Biomedical Ethics at Case Western University of Medicine announces the inauguration of the course leading to the Master's degree in Arts in Biomedical Ethics. The program starts in August 1995. For details contact Stephen G. Post, Associate Director for Educational Programs, Center for Biomedical Ethics at Case Western Uni-

versity of Medicine, 1900 Euclid Drive, Cleveland, Ohio 44106-4976, U. S. A.

## **Bioethicsline**

This database of bibliographic references on ethical and public policy issues in health care and biomedical research from 1973 to date is maintained at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University, Washington DC, 20057, USA. This database can be searched after obtaining a password and user identification code from the MEDLARS Management Section, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20894. The database is also available on CD-ROM.

## **Publications on bioethics from The Hastings Center**

The Center's primary publication is *The Hastings Center Report* - a long established bimonthly journal that now serves as a source of references to so many. One encounters papers by philosophers, legal experts, medical personnel, social scientists, students of the natural sciences and theologians. Through the courtesy of Dr. Daniel Callahan and his team, Forum for Medical Ethics Society has received three volumes of this publication (see section on Gifts). The Center also publishes *IRB: A review of human subjects research* once every two months. Cumulative indices to both these are available on 5.25 inch floppy disks.

Several special supplements to *The Hastings Center Report* have been published over the years including those on Theology, Religious Traditions and Bioethics; Animals, Science and Ethics; Mercy, Murder and Morality; Perspectives on Euthanasia; Genetic Grammar and AIDS.

Publications on audio-tape include *Living with mortality*, *The nature of suffering* and *The future of medical education and Medical utility: the limits of patient autonomy*.

The Center also published books, monographs, handbooks under its own imprint, under the imprint of Plenum Press and, more recently, under that of The Georgetown University Press (see below) and other University presses and publishing companies.

For more information please write to: The Publications Officer, The Hastings Center, 255 Elm Road, Briarcliff Manor, New York 10510, U. S. A. Fax: (914) 762-2124.

## **Publications on bioethics from Georgetown University Press**

The Georgetown University Press serves the Kennedy Institute of Ethics and publishes several works on ethics. Their titles on biomedical ethics include *Ethics of health care*, *Inquiries in bioethics*, *Medical ethics* and *Healthcare ethics*. The Press has recently announced publication of a new series entitled *Hastings Center Studies in Ethics*. The first in this series is entitled *Life choices*. It examines the answers to a wide range of provocative ethical questions on topics such as abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, life-sustaining treatment, reproductive technologies, organ transplantation and allocation of health care resources. Contributors to the volume include Drs. Ruth Macklin and James Childress.

For further information please write to: The Publications Officer, Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University, Washington DC 20057-1065, U. S. A. Fax: 1-202-687-6770.

## **GIFTS**

We acknowledge with gratitude the following gifts:

### **From The Hastings Center, 255 Elm Road, Briarcliff Manor, A? Y.:**

1. Grubb A (Ed.): *Choices and decisions in health care* John Wiley & Sons, Chichester. 1993.

(The book includes chapters on Islamic medical ethics, euthanasia, the persistent vegetative state and ethics in medical research.)

2. Levine C: *Taking sides: Clashing*

*views on controversial bio-ethical issues* The Dushkin Publishing Group Inc., Guilford, Connecticut. 1984..

(Part one of the book deals with choices in reproduction, part two with issues relating to death, part three with treatment of the mentally ill and part four with human and animal experimentation. Seventeen issues are discussed, each by two authors one of whom argues 'Yes' and the other 'No'. Postscripts round off the discussion.)

3. Dunning AJ (Chairman): *Choices in health care* A report by the Government

Committee on choices in health care, The Netherlands. 1992.

(As the title suggests, the committee deals with the compulsions that force us to choose who should receive 'particular types of health care, individual responsibility towards society, rights and priorities, rationing, innovation, appropriate care and recommendations made by the committee.)

4. The following issues of journals:

a) *The Journal of Contemporary Health Law and Policy* 1991;7: 1-448.

(This special issue dedicated to Dr. Josephine King includes papers on the patient's right to decline treatment, Dr. Joseph Mengele's medical experiments and factors associated with medical malpractice.)

b) *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics* 1993;2:397-564.

(This issue contains a special section on ethics consultants and consultations. It also contains some responses on euthanasia.)

c) *American Journal of Law and Medicine* 1993;XIX:187-367.

(Published by the American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics, this issue includes papers on reproductive autonomy in married and unmarried women.)

d) *Health Affairs* 1994; 13:7-279.

(This issue includes papers on the pharmaceutical industry and health reform, the regulation of drugs and devices and criteria for standard vs experimental therapy.)

e) *Journal of Medical Ethics* 1993;19:195-256.

(This issue includes an editorial on autonomy, a symposium on ethics and clinical trials and papers on decisions on 'not to resuscitate' and whether nurses should remain under the authority of the physician.)

f) *HEC Forum* 1994;6:73-126

(Published by HealthCare Ethics Committee Forum, the journal focusses on various aspects of the functioning of ethics committees in hospitals.)

g) *Bioethics* 1994;8:191-292.

(This special issue discusses various aspects of advance declarations, especially as they pertain to life-sustaining treatment. Dr. Hilde Nelson's paper on 'Postmortem pregnancy' - sustaining the pregnancies of brain dead women in the second or third trimester also deserves attention.)

h) *Medico-legal Journal* 1994;62:97- 160.

(This issue contains, among other papers, one on why opinions on the effects of health care are so often wrong.)

i) *Social Responsibility: Business, Journalism, Law, Medicine* 1994;XX:5-80.

(This issue contains lectures delivered at Washington and Lee University during 1993-1994. The first of these discusses money and manipulation in the media. It asks whether the line that journalists would not, traditionally, cross has moved or become dotted. The third essay discusses AIDS as a mirror of ourselves, revealing many destructive prejudices.)

j) *Stanford Law Review* 1993;46: 1-234.

(The first paper 'From science to evidence' discusses trials on Bendectin - a drug that caused birth defects in children born of mothers on this drug.)

k) *IRB - a review of human subjects research* 1994; 16: 1-24.

(Published by The Hastings Center, it features, among other essays, one on whether transplantation of cells to patients with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy are ethical.)

l) *The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics* 1994;22: 1-93.

(Among other topics this issue features expert witnesses, euthanasia and wrongful birth. The latter refers to birth of a child with congenital illness or abnormality where the parents had not been informed of this possibility by the treating prenatal physician.)

m) *Nerv Titles in Bioethics* 1994;20:1-18

(A classified bibliography of recent books in this field.)

n) *Hastings Center Report* 1992-1 994, Volumes 22-24.

3) Photocopies of several key papers on biomedical ethics.

We are especially obliged to Dr. Daniel Callahan and his team at The Hastings Center for these generous gifts.

**World Health Organisation Library, Geneva**

1. Howard-Jones N, Bankowski Z: *Medical experimentation and the protection of human rights* Council for International Organisations of Medical Sciences and The Sandoz Institute for Health and Socio-Economic Issues, Geneva. 1979.

2. Curran WJ, Shapiro ED: *Law, medicine and forensic science* Third edition. Little, Brown and Co., Boston. 1982.

3. Brody EB: *Biomedical technology and human rights*. UNESCO, Paris. 1993.

**From Dr. K.W.M. Fulford, Department of Psychiatry, University of Oxford, England**

Fulford KWM: *Moral theory and medical practice* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. 1989.

**From Dr. Aneel N. Patel, 501 Lakeshore Drive, Goldsboro, N. Carolina, USA**

Kolatta G: *The baby doctors. Probing the limits of fetal medicine* Delacorte Press, New York. 1990.

**From Dr. Bindu T. Desai, 28 Park Avenue, Madisonville, Kentucky, USA**

Currey R: *Medicine for sale. Commercialism vs. Professionalism* Whittle Direct Books, Knoxville, Tenn. 1992.

**From Dr. Jorgen Cohn, Department of Pediatrics, University of Tromso, Norway**

Cohn J, Eitinger L, Kemp Genefke I, Vesti P (Eds.): *Torture and the medical profession. Journal of Medical Ethics* 1991;17:Supplement 1-64.

**From The Henry L Kaiser Family Foundation**

White KL: *The task of medicine. Dialogue at Wickenburg* The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, Menlo Park, California. 1988.

## POINT TO PONDER

### Is absolute honesty always a virtue?

In human affairs, crass honesty may not always be the cardinal virtue. Truth must, and often should, yield to discretion, kindness and compassion in the usually irrational realm of human affairs. Naked, sheer honesty as applied to such tricky issues as human values, ethics and human good suffers from the difficulty of discerning, in the human world of noncommensurate values, what truth really is. It may be hard to differentiate honesty of the heart from honesty of the word.

— D. Carleton Gadjusek

Gadjusek DC: Scientific responsibility. In: Fujiki N, Macer D (Eds.) *Human genome research and society. Proceedings of the Second International Bioethics Seminar*. Eubios Ethics Institute, Fukui, Japan. 1992. Pages 205210.