

**Consortium Meetings and Location**

--March 13 (Thurs.) gather at 5:30 California Hospital 1440 So. Grand Ave. 90047 Keck Hall, meeting 6:30pm

--May 21 (Wed): USC Medical campus

Summary of Jan 16 Meeting of Consortium

The Greater Los Angeles VA Medical Center – Westwood, CA – 26 attendees. *Dr. Paul Schneider provided an overview of the Greater Los Angeles VA Medical Center's history. *Approval by the consortium of its mission statement and governance policy as refined by Miriam Cotler and Paul Schneider will occur via voting at future meetings. Email may be used at certain times to further open the discussion and voting to more members. *Future newsletters will be uploaded to the website and may include presentation abstracts. **Les Rothenberg** will begin the planned review of the literature. ***Nicholas Kockler** presented a prototype website (proposed name) www.socalbioethics.org. Imagery for the prototype was discussed, and the website will include a link to **Maurice Bernstein's bioethics blog**. *Members agreed to make efforts to have the **next meeting** in **East LA**. *Members interested in a consortium research project measuring the rates of patients with inpatient DNR orders discharged with outpatient DNR orders should contact **Neil Wenger** nwenger@mednet.ucla.edu *Establishment of an account for the consortium as a non-profit association is still pending. ***Ron Miller** provided an update on the California POLST. * **Dr. Jacob Fleischmann** presented Jewish orthodox perspective on organ transplants

-----Training & Advanced Degrees-----

* Case Western Reserve University offers a doctorate in Bioethical Studies.

* ANH Focus on Recent Catholic Judgments
LMU 1 Credit Course Tues 7/8-7/29 6-9pm

*****Resources*****

Assessment and management of professional liability claims available through the Cooperative of American Physicians at www.cap-mpt.com

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Ethics of Pharmaceutical Development **April 17**, 4:45-5:45pm LMU Nicolas Kockler at nkockler@lmu.edu or 310-338-6434

What is an Autonomous Patient? Eric Cassell, M.D Tues. **Mar 18** noon Harvey Morse Aud. Cedars-Sinai

Ethics of Discontent Arthur W Frank, Ph.D. **Mar 25** noon, Health Sciences Campus, USC, Mayer Aud. & *Professional, Artificial Persons, and Ethics*,

Mar 26, 4pm Doheny Memorial Library, Intellectual Commons, 240, University Park Campus

UCLA Conference on Public Health and

Disasters **May 18-21**, Torrance Marriot Hotel, Pacific Public Health Training Center, Contact 310-794-0564

Bioethics Summer Camp **June 18-22** Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics Hilton Sonoma, www.bioethics.stanford.edu/BioethicsSummerCamp2008.html

A WIDER VIEW

California: **Laura's Law SB1606** Mandates outpatient mental health for those who refuse mental health care treatment and are a danger to the community to be implemented in Nevada County www.lauraslaw.net

AB 3000 proposes POLST as the legal equivalent of a prehospital DNR <http://info.sen.ca.gov>

National: Health Debate, websites to compare candidates' proposals: Clinton v Obama: <http://cbs2chicago.com/politics/health.care.democrats.2.642839.html> McCain:

<http://mediamatters.org/items/200802140012>
President vetoes measure to restrain interrogation techniques by US operatives, including water boarding www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2008-03-08-bushaddress_N.htm

International: Biopolis, Singapore lures researchers with its permissive stand regarding stem cell and animal experiments. <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/08/17/business/worldbusiness/17stem.html?>
Peruse the Biopolis Bioethics Advisory Committee at <http://www.bioethics-singapore.org/index.asp>



Where do you stand on...?

Mandating Vaccination: What Counts as a "Mandate" in public: Recent arguments over whether certain public health interventions should be mandatory

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content?content=10.1080/15265160701795809>

Matters of Conscience

Controversies about Conscience in Medicine:

Should the physician's conscience play a role in the practice of medicine?

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a788714516~db=all>

California Campaign to Stop Torture supports Senate Joint

Resolution 19 www.afsc.org/pacificsw/ccstm.htm

When a Murderer Wants to Practice Medicine:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/29/health/views/29docs.html?pagewanted=2&r=3&sq=When%20a%20Murderer&st=nyt&scp=1>

Glossary

Terms used frequently in Bioethics Consults

Palliative care is a therapy that focuses on providing relief from pain and other symptoms of a serious illness, and aims to neither hasten nor postpone death. This team approach provides support for the patient and the family. It is applicable at any point in an illness. Palliative care can be provided at the same time as treatment that is meant to cure. It is different from hospice care which includes palliative care but focuses on terminally ill patients who no longer are seeking curative treatments and are expected to live for approximately six months or less.

Comfort measures only is ordered by the physician when the focus of the medical treatment of a dying person centers on symptom management and support for the patient and their families. It is appropriate when comfort is the priority and a cure or prolongation of life are no longer obtainable goals, and should assure that that further interventions are in accordance with the patient's wishes.

Consent Forms that Patients Can Understand

Wall Street Journal, Feb 6, 2008 – With increasing concerns over patient safety and lawsuits involving physician-patient miscommunication, new guidelines from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services call on hospitals to design patient-friendly informed-consent processes. Doctors and hospitals are redesigning their informed-consent forms. Some are offering explanatory videos and electronic digital diagrams or Web-based databases and electronic forms.

[http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB120224055435844931-](http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB120224055435844931-Kd_AJddvdLapwheyVvcLIQIBLQ_20080306.html?mod=tff_main_tff_top)

[Kd_AJddvdLapwheyVvcLIQIBLQ_20080306.html?mod=tff_main_tff_top](http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB120224055435844931-Kd_AJddvdLapwheyVvcLIQIBLQ_20080306.html?mod=tff_main_tff_top)

Patient, Protect Thyself (LA Times, Jan 28, 2008) – Patients are medical consumers, and they have a role in keeping themselves safe

<http://www.latimes.com/la-he-patients28jan28,1,1373722.story?ctrack=5&csset=rue>

Books in the Field

* *The Ethics of Bioethics: Mapping the Moral Landscape*, Lisa A. Eckenwiler (Ed), Felicia G. Cohn (Ed)

* *The Renewal of Generosity: Illness, Medicine and How to Live*, Arthur Frank

* *The Lonely Tiger*, David A. Goldstein, M.D.

* *And a Time to Die: How American Hospitals Shape the End of Life*, Sharon Kaufman, PhD

* *For Les Rothenberg's list in ASBH:*

<http://www.asbh.org/publications/pdfs/bibwinoseven.pdf>

Weigh in with the

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