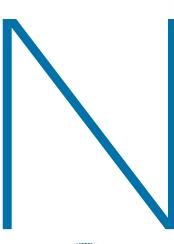
Volume 22.... Winter 2013.... Number 1



From the PRESIDENT

Donna F. Homenko, PhD



Ethical dilemmas can arise at any time in our dealings with patients or at the workplace in general. In some cases, the situation is compounded by differences between cultures. Both practitioners and patients can even experience culture shock when their surroundings, a provider or a procedure is unfamiliar and uncertain.

Through education patients can be informed of choices that increase the chances that their beliefs will be respected. And, practitioners need to be updated on the differences they may encounter with a variety of patients. Communication, written and verbal, is an essential component of overcoming problems that can arise given the diversity of



### ....a 'smile' is a form of communication that everyone can understand...

beliefs. Whether it stems from speaking different languages or a lack of understanding the technical terms involved in one's care, such differences may become a major factor in the relationship due to the absence of a common bond.

I once learned that a 'smile' is a form of communication that everyone can understand, because it speaks the language of our hearts. When I participated in a medical mission

CONTENTS From the President 1 Children's Immunization 2 Member Recognition 3 Upcoming Conference 4

BIO

A Publication of The Bioethics Network of Ohio

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....continued on page 2

in Honduras, and my rusty Spanish began to fail me when dealing with 4-year-old Hefferson and his parents somehow the offering of a smile opened the path to patience and understanding as both sides struggled to explain why this little boy was in pain.

In this small village setting we were afforded the gift of time to develop our relationship. In large urban medical centers, time may be limited and thus we must be prepared. Advanced planning on how to handle these situations—knowing the availability of translators at a moment's notice and understanding the demographics of the surrounding community—can alleviate some of the problem.

Health care organizations can develop participatory and collaborative partnerships to address the facets of cultural diversity. BENO can serve in this capacity through its community of membership across many health disciplines and the educational activities at the Annual Conference.

...resolve to conduct better clinical consultations with those from many different cultural backgrounds

As we begin a new year, filled with the traditional resolutions to exercise more, eat healthier and maintain a balance in our personal and professional lives, consider an ethical resolve to gather the tools necessary to conduct better clinical consultations with those from many different cultural backgrounds.

## • Should Non-immunized Children Be Excluded from a Pediatric Practice?

Pedro Weisleder, MD, PhD Co-Chair of Nationwide Children's Hospital Integrated Ethics Committee Nationwide Children's Hospital



As indicated by Omer et al. (2009) "Vaccines are among the most effective prevention tools available to clinicians." High immunization coverage has resulted in drastic declines in vaccine-preventable diseases (1). And for those who cannot be immunized, "herd effect" - the phenomenon by which a disease is squeezed out of a community due to a lack of hosts capable of transmitting it – offers a potentially life saving option (2). Unfortunately, the low incidence of vaccine-preventable diseases has lead some to wrongly believe the conditions have been eradicated - we have become victims of our own success (3).

The authors of several recent publications have indicated that the number of parents who refuse to vaccinate their children by seeking a personal-belief exemption (PBE) has been steadily increasing (1,4). Specifically, between 1991 and 2004 the number of PBE to immunizations rose from 0.99% to 2.54%. Using 2010 data from The Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics (6), it is reasonable to conclude that, based on parental PBE, almost 2 million American children are unvaccinated today. And the number is much higher in certain metropolitan areas such as Seattle and San Diego.

Pediatricians have the privilege and responsibility to care for a vulnerable population. We are entrusted, and as a matter of fact expected, to work in concert with parents and act in the best interest of our patients. Our responsibility, however, is not only to the child in the examining room, it is also to those in the waiting room. Many of the vaccine-preventable illnesses cause significant morbidity in children with no underlying medical problems. They have the potential to be devastating or fatal for



children who do. It is not uncommon for pediatricians to provide routine care to patients on long-term daily corticosteroids or other immunomodulators for juvenile idiopathic arthritis, Crohn's disease, cancer, and reactive airway disease. An infection with varicella, Haemophilus influenzae type B, measles, or certain strains of Streptococcus pneumoniae - all vaccine-preventable illnesses - could be fatal if acquired by such patients.

As a consequence of the above, some clinicians have discontinued or have considered severing their provider relationship with families that refuse vaccines (7,8). To those pediatricians it is a matter of societal responsibility and unwillingness to practice sub-standard medicine. The American Academy In an effort to assist practitioners, the AAP has developed recommendations and practical tools to foster communication with the parents of unvaccinated children.

of Pediatrics (AAP) does not challenge the nobility behind those principles. It does, however, question the wisdom of discharging patients from a practice solely because of parental refusal to immunizations (9). In an effort to assist practitioners, the AAP has developed recommendations and practical tools to foster communication with the parents of unvaccinated children. Specifically, the AAP recommends that pediatricians: 1- share honestly what is and is not known about the risks and benefits of the vaccine in question; 2- address vaccine refusal by respectfully listening to parental concerns, explaining the risk of nonimmunization, and discussing the specific vaccines that are of most concern to parents; 3- document details of the conversations and have the parent sign a vaccine refusal form (please reference 10), and keep the form in the patient's medical record; 4-revisit the immunization discussion at each subsequent appointment and flag the chart to be reminded to revisit the immunization discussion.

## References

1) Omer SB, Salmom DA, Orenstein WA, et al. Vaccine refusal, mandatory immunizations, and the risks of vaccine-preventable diseases. N Engl J Med. 2009;360:1981-1988.

2) Rakowsky AT. The argument for excluding nonimmunized children from a pediatric practice. J Child Neurol. 2010;25:1586-1587.

3) Metz SJ. The argument for including non-immunized children in a pediatric practice.  $\mathcal{J}$  *Child Neurol.* 2010;25:1584-1585.

4) Sugerman DE, Barskey AE, Delea MG, et al. Measles outbreak in a highly vaccinated population, San Diego, 2008: Role of the intentionally undervaccinated. *Pediatrics*. 2010;125:747-755.

5) Dempsey AF, Schaffer S, Singer D, et al. Alternative vaccination schedule preferences among parents of young children. Pediatrics. 2011;128:848-856.

6) Number of children (in millions) ages 0–17 in the United States by age, 1950–2010 and projected 2030–2050. Available at: http://www.childstats.gov/americaschildren/tables/pop1.asp

7) Some pediatricians taking stand for vaccine program. Available at: http://articles.chica-gotribune.com

8) Strong beliefs about vaccines work both ways. Available at: http://abcnews.go.com

9) Diekema DS. Responding to parental refusals of immunization of children. *Pediatrics*. 2005;115;1428-1431.

10) American Academy of Pediatrics. Documenting Parental Refusal to Have Their Children Vaccinated. Available at: http://practice.aap.org/popup.aspx?aID=2685&language=

# MEMBER Recognition

**WELCOME** to the following new members and thank you for joining the Network and contributing to the work of the organization.

## INDIVIDUALS

Michael Polnik, MA Canton, OH

Hafzah Mueenuddin Butt, JD, MA Cincinnati, OH

L. William Mortensen, MA. Mentor, OH

Nancy Flickinger, MD, Barberton, OH



# **BENO** is Unique!

We are the only statewide organization serving Ohio as an educational resource in health care ethics. If you share this interest, we invite you to become a member and...

- **Network** with experienced ethicists statewide.
- Earn continuing education credit.

• Better serve your organization and community.

• Participate in our projects.

• Polish skills and learn new ones.

Download Individual and Institional Membership Forms at: www.beno-ethics.org/membership.html.

The Bioethics Network of Ohio is pleased to recognize our **Platinum Members**:

Catholic Health Hospital Medical Center • Lake Health • Mary Rutan Hospital
 Mercy Health Partners • Miami Valley Hospital • Nationwide Children's Hospital • OhioHealth

**BENO** 23rd Annual Conference April 26, 2013 "Culture, Religion and Clinical Ethics"

Friday April 26, 2013 OCLC Dublin, Ohio Be sure to take advantage of the early discount postmarked by April 1, 2013

COLUMBUS



**Brian Volck, MD** Asst. Professor University of Cincinnati Dept. of Pediatrics *Our Keynote Speaker,* is a teaching hospitalist, author and pediatrician, with particular interest in Native american child health. Dr. Volck will address the latter in his presentation, *"Love, K'e and Religion"*.

Serving Ohio as an Educational Resource in Health Care Ethics

#### Dear BENO Members and Friends,

Join fellow BENO members and other colleagues for the 23rd Annual Bioethics Network of Ohio Conference. As you review the key topics for this year's program, "Culture, Religion and Clinical Ethics", pay particular attention to the **Jim Barlow Memorial Lecture** and the options for morning and afternoon breakout sessions. REGISTER EARLY – to save money and ensure your seat in selected sessions.

As part of BENO's ongoing educational mission, we are excited to acknowledge the inaugural graduates from the Ethics Consultation Course. Plans are already underway for the next offering in fall, 2013. Whether you are a new member of an ethics committee or an experienced practitioner, this year-long course, providing 16 CE-accredited units, will enhance your skills in ethics consultation.

On behalf of the Program Committee, we anticipate enlightening dialogue in each conference session. As noted, we will be meeting once again at the OCLC, in Columbus. Encourage your co-workers, friends and students to attend this worthwhile program.

#### Donna F. Homenko, PhD President, BENO

2013 Conference Planning Committee Jack A. Gallagher, PhD, Co-Chair, Catholic Health Partners Mark A. Skaja, MDiv, BCC, Co-Chair, St. Rita's Health Partners Anne Lovell, RN, MSN, CPNP, Cincinnati Children's Health Medical Center Beth Griebel, RN, MSN, Midwest Care Alliance Tobi Mattes, BA, M A Marketing Communication Dawn Seery, RN, MA, D.BE, Mt. Carmel Health System

## Conference Learning Goal: "Culture, Religion and Clinical Ethics"

Identify the diverse manner in which Native American, African American, Amish and Hispanic culture, as well as religion, can influence clinical and ethical decision-making.

### 2013 Conference Faculty

Carrie Durbin, BS, Migrant Health Promotion Ashley K. Fernandes, MD, PhD, FAAP, WSU Boonshoft School of Medicine Yolanda Hamilton, B.B.A, Lifebanc Larry James, MBA, Catholic Health Partners Gayle A. Lawn-Day, PhD, Migrant Health Promotion Louise Lears, SC, PhD, Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati Anne Lovell, MSN, CNP, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Paul Numrich, PhD, Methodist Theological School in Ohio Roschelle Ogbuji, MA, JCIS Innovative Solutions Michael E. Polnik, MA, Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences Dawn Seery, RN, MA, D.BE, Mt. Carmel Health System Brian Volck, MD, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

**Locations, Directions & Room Reservation:** The conference is being held at OCLC (On Line Computer Library Center), 6565 Kilgour Place, in Dublin, just off I-270 & 1/4 mile from the hotel. When you approach the intersection of Route 161/33 & Franz Rd., from I-270, the street sign is misleading. Be sure to turn north (left) toward Post Rd., and then make an immediate right. You'll be on Kilgour Place. For additional information visit: www.oclc.org/conferencenter.

Rooms are available at Courtyard Columbus Dublin, 5175 Post Rd., Dublin, OH. For a detailed map & directions, go to: www.marriott.com For reservations, call the hotel reservation line 1-800-321-2211 or 614-764-9393 and ask for the rooms reserved under the Bioethics Network Room Block. The special rate of \$99 for king rooms is available through April 15, 2013.

<ul> <li>Stone and a second se</li></ul>
<ul> <li>8:30 - 8:45 am Welcome</li> <li>8:45 - 9:45 am Keynote Address: "Love, K'e and Religion", Brian Volck, MD Virtues, such as the Christian virtue of love and Navajo virtue of K'e embodied in the living traditions and practices of hospitality, are considered alternatives to the disembodied principles that dominate contemporary bioethics discourse. The modern West's sequestering of "religion" separable from the rest of community's life is an unaddressed blind spot in attempts to enhance communication across cultures.</li> <li>9:45 - 10:45 am Jim Barlow Memorial Lecture: "Worldview Competence in Health Care", Paul Numrich, PhD Cultural competence in health care often privileges language access services and sometimes overlooks specifically religious aspects of culture. This presentation will make a case for "religious competence" in health care and the make a further case for a comprehensive "worldview competence" that takes into consideration the increasing number of "nons" in American society, e.g., the non-religious and non-affiliated.</li> <li>10:45 - 11:00 am Break and Refreshments</li> <li>11:00 - Noon Concurrent Breakout Sessions Please choose one and enter it on the registration form.</li> <li>1. "The Fragile Child: Cultural &amp; Religious Influences in Parental Decision-Making", Anne Lovell, MSN, CNP Decisions regarding medical care and treatment of a child are most often have little or no experience with decision-making of this magnitude and, as a result, rely upon family, cultural, or religious influences which may lead to conflict with medical care providers and family, cultural, or religious influences which may lead to conflict with medical care providers and family, cultural, or religious influences which may lead to conflict with medical care providers and family, cultural, or religious influences which may lead to conflict with medical care providers and family, cultural, or religious influences which may lead to conflict with medical care providers and family.</li> <li>2. "The Amish", Michael</li></ul>
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3. "Organ Donation & Multicultural Community", Yolanda Hamilton, BBA and Roschelle Ogbuni, MA The presentation will provide insight on the dynamics of organ donation within multicultural communities emphasizing ethnic groups with the greatest disparity on the Ohio organ donor registry. It will address the importance of and need for organ, eye and tissue donors within multicultural communities and barriers which prevent members of those communities from becoming registered donors.
Noon – 1:30 pm Lunch & BENO Business Meeting – Presentation: "Accounting for Culture – With Sensitivity and Humility" Louise Lears, SC, PhD What should we do when cultural values arise and/or conflict in the health care setting? Being aware of larger cultural values can help health care providers understand patients' behaviors and actions. This session will explore the need for sensitivity and humility when faced with cultural differences in the clinical setting.
1:30 - 3:00 pm Concurrent Breakout Sessions <sup>(C)</sup> Please choose one and enter it on the registration form.
4. "Waging CLAS Warfare on Disparities in Care ", Larry James, MBA Although disparities in healthcare are not a new subject, there are few proven weapons to successfully combat their debilitating impact. This presentation explores the prevalence of health disparities, and then delves into development of CLAS standards whi are designed to significantly reduce disparities within healthcare organizations. Finally, an exploration of one organization's attempts to eliminate disparities will be discussed.
5. "Needs of the Invisible", Dawn Seery, RN, MA, D.BE How should society act to sustain a social world in which people age and die in humanly fitting ways, without fear of abandon- ment by family members whose own needs are invisible? This presentation will explore the ethic of justice and care to consider needs of the caregiver who can break under the weight of a noble task, with all its physical, psychological and economic demand
6. "Lessons from the Field: Serving Migrants, Farm Workers & Border Populations with Culturally – Competent Health Outreach & Service", Gayle A. Lawn-Day, PhD, Carrie Durbin, BS Migrant Health Promotion has over 30 years experience serving Latinos in migrant camps, border populations and other isolated communities with culturally-competent health outreach. It's clear that cultural competency plays a large role in the availability of and access to appropriate services and this session will share experiences regarding successful outreach and likely barriers.
3:00 - 3:15 pm Break & Refreshments
3:15 – 4:15 pm Plenary: "Conscience in Medicine: Can Borders Become Meeting Places?", Ashley K. Fernandes, MD, PhD, FAA The debate over conscientious objection in medicine has recently been pitted as a battle of "religion versus reason", with attempts to limit the protection of conscience of health care providers. This presentation argues that severely limiting conscientious objection fails to address the definition and meaning of conscience itself. Borders drawn to separate can also be "meeting places", where two sides can come together, oriented toward respect for persons.
4:15 - 4:30 pm       Closing, Evaluations & Certificates       Please Have a Safe Trip Home

## 

	The Conference Please make a BENO, and mail it w	23rd Annual Bioethic "Culture, Religion & Conference Reg <i>Friday, April</i> e Center at OCLC (On Line a copy of this form for your with completed registration y Rd., Beachwood, OH 441 or e-mail ljmarket@	& Clinical Ethics' istration Form 26, 2013 e Computer Library records. Make your on form to: MA Marl 22; Questions? Phor	, Center) Dublin, OH check payable to <b>keting Communication</b> ,	
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After 4/01	\$175	\$175	\$195	\$93	
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Add \$50 for	same day Conference re	gistration and lunch is on ye	our own. NO REFUND	S after April 15, 2013.	
	<b>There</b> er for Home, Hospice and I	BENO 23rd Annua Culture, Religion and n co-provided by Midwe e are 6.5 contact/clock h Palliative Care Education (0H-24 ssociation (0BN-001-91), an acc	Clinical Ethics st Care Alliance ar nours for this confe 8/4-1-15) is an approved	<b>rence</b> d provider of continuing	
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Note that the conference in its entirety has been approved for clock hours; however, some sessions may not be appropriate for Social Worker or Counselor continuing education. Please contact Beth Griebel, beth.griebel@midwestcarealliance.org, with any questions.

No commercial support was received for this educational event.

<u>Criteria for successful completion & receipt of Contact/Clock hours:</u> Attending the entire session(s). Participant will receive contact hours only for session(s) attended. Prorated contact hours will be offered.

## **Bioethics Network of Ohio**

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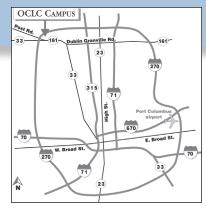
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Serving Ohio as an educational resource in healthcare ethics.

## Take advantage of early registration!

Biothethics Network of Ohio Annual Conference Friday, April 26, 2013

"Culture, Religion and Clinical Ethics"



The Conference Center at OCLC 6565 Kilgour Place Dublin, OH 43017-3395

Conference brochure and registration form inside

