

2009 SUMMER PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE

**PUBLIC HEALTH ETHICS
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Day One

Introduction to Public Health Ethics

- **Values and Beliefs**
- **Ethical Principles and Underlying Theories**
- **Steps in Public Health Ethical Decision-Making**
- **Public Health Mandates: Law and the State Police Power**
- **The Tension between Individual and Collective Rights**
- **How Public Health Ethics Differs from Clinical Ethics**

Readings:

Bayer, R. and Fairchild, A.L. 2004. "The Genesis of Public Health Ethics." 18:6 *Bioethics* 473-492.

Kass, N. E. 2004. "Public Health Ethics: From Foundations and Frameworks to Justice and Global Public Health." 32:2 *The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics* 232-242.

Gostin, L.O. 2005. "Jacobson v. Massachusetts at 100 Years: Police Powers and Civil Liberties in Tension." 95:4 *The American Journal of Public Health* 576-581.

Public Health Leadership Society. 2002. *Principles of the Ethical Practice of Public Health*, Version 2.2.

Case Studies:

Communication Responsibilities of Public Health Officials: Acting Under Scientific Uncertainty

Bioterrorism: The Model State Emergency Health Powers Act

Day Two

The Tension between Individual and Collective Rights

- **Responsibility for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention**
 - **Smoking and Incentives for Behavioral Change**

Readings:

Bayer, R. 2003. "Ethics of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention." *Ethics and Public Health: Model Curriculum, Association of Schools of Public Health* 147-157.

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Morreim, E.H. 1999. "Sticks and Carrots and Baseball Bats: Economic and Other Incentives to Modify Behavior." *Promoting Health Behavior: How Much Freedom? Whose Responsibility?* Ed. D. Callahan. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press. 56-75.

"Many Americans Back Higher Costs for People with Unhealthy Lifestyles." *The Wall Street Journal*. July 19, 2006.

Steinbrook, R. 2006. "Imposing Personal Responsibility for Health." 355:8 *The New England Journal of Medicine* 753-756.

Case Studies:

West Virginia's Medicaid Program

The Role of Schools in Monitoring Student Health

Requiring Employees to Quit Smoking

Day Three

The Tension between Individual and Collective Rights

- **The Control of Infectious Diseases**
 - **Immunization, screening, and treatment**
 - **Isolation, quarantine, civil commitment, criminal punishment**
 - **Other restrictions on the person**
- **Surveillance and Public Health Research**
 - **Privacy, technology, and the dissemination of data**

Readings:

Bayer, R. 2003. "Ethics and Infectious Disease Control: STDs, HIV, TB." *Ethics and Public Health: Model Curriculum, Association of Schools of Public Health* 133-146.

Harris, J. and Holm, S. 2005. "Is There a Moral Obligation Not to Infect Others?" 311:7014 *British Medical Journal* 1215-1217.

Selgelid, M.J. 2005. "Ethics and Infectious Disease." 19:3 *Bioethics* 272-289.

Fairchild, A.L. and Bayer, R. 2004. "Ethics and the Conduct of Public Health Surveillance." 303:5658 *Science* 631-632.

Taylor, H.A. and Johnson, S. 2007. "Ethics of Population-Based Research." 35:2 *The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics* 295-299.

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Case Studies:

Forced Treatment for Tuberculosis

Reporting of Infectious Diseases

Mandatory HPV Vaccination

Day Four

Ethical Allocation of Health Care Resources

- **Inequalities Between Individuals**
 - **The U.S. health care system**
 - **Are inequalities injustices to be addressed?**
 - **Framing the debate**
- **Pandemic Influenza: “Who shall live when not all can live?”**

Garland, M. and Stull, J. 2003. “Public Health and Health System Reform: Access, Priority Setting, and Allocation of Resources.” *Ethics and Public Health: Model Curriculum, Association of Schools of Public Health* 241-251.

Gostin, L.O. 2004. “Pandemic Influenza: Public Health Preparedness for the Next Global Health Emergency.” 32:4 *The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics* 565-573.

Kotalik, J. 2005. “Preparing for an Influenza Pandemic: Ethical Issues.” 19:4 *Bioethics* 422-431.

Emanuel, E.J. and Wertheimer, A. 2006. “Who Should Get Influenza Vaccine When Not All Can?” 312:5775 *Science* 854-855.

Case Studies:

Alcoholics and Liver Transplantation

Health Care for Undocumented Aliens

Rationing Experimental Treatments

Day Five

Global Justice, Public Health, and Human Rights

- **The 10/90 Gap**
- **Health care**
 - **Accessibility and affordability of drugs**
 - **Access to health care services**
 - **Clinical research to solve health problems in developing countries**
- **Underlying determinants of health**
- **Human rights, the human right to health, and State obligations**

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Readings:

United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. General Comment No. 14, *The Right to the Highest Attainable Standard of Health*. August 11, 2000.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). *Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights*. October 19, 2005.

World Health Organization (WHO). *Linkages Between Health and Human Rights*.

Mann, J.M. 1997. "Medicine and Public Health, Ethics, and Human Rights." 27:3 *The Hastings Center Report* 6-13.

Gruskin, S., Mills, E. and Tarantola, D. 2007. "History, Principles, and Practice of Health and Human Rights." 370:9585 *The Lancet* 449-455.

Farmer, P. and Campos, N.G. 2004. "New Malaise: Bioethics and Human Rights in the Global Era." 32:2 *The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics* 243-251.

Page, A. 2004. "Ethical Issues in International Biomedical Research: An Overview." 37:4 *Journal of Health Law* 629-665.

Case Studies:

Ethics vs. Economics: Access to Drugs in Developing Countries

Justice in International Public Health Research: Providing Antiretroviral Drugs to AIDS Vaccine Research Subjects Who Become Infected During the Trial