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*A Practical Approach to Medical Ethics*

**B P BLISS MS FRCS & A G JOHNSON M Chir FRCS**

This book provides a set of guidelines which allows ethical decisions to be reached by an individual faced with an ethical problem; concentrates on a practical rather than a theoretical approach to medical ethics; avoids ethical jargon, and is easy for the practising clinician to read and understand. Many practical clinical examples are compared with the guidelines, and discussed. This is NOT another philosophical treatise around the subject of medical ethics. It is intended to be read as a whole, and the chapters are meant to illustrate the book's message rather than to be summaries of particular situations or problems.

The traditional approach and its basis is analysed, and shown to have arisen piecemeal as ethical crises have occurred. This approach is illustrated through a review of the problems of responsibility and an examination of the more recent problems of abortion and organ transplantation.

The book is developed from the seminars on medical ethics which have been part of the medical curriculum at Charing Cross Hospital Medical School over the past few years and its approach has thus been tested within a critical forum. It is lucidly written for a wide audience – practising clinicians, be they doctors or nurses, hospital administrators, medical social workers, medical and nursing students and paramedical students as well as concerned members of the public.

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