

The Journal of the Society for the Study of Medical Ethics

The *Journal of Medical Ethics* was established in 1975, with a multi-disciplinary Editorial Board, to promote the study of contemporary medico-moral problems. The Editorial Board has as its aim the encouragement of a high academic standard for this developing subject and the influencing of the quality of both professional and public discussion. The *journal* is published quarterly. The *journal* includes papers on all aspects of medical ethics, analyses ethical concepts and theories and features case conferences and comment on clinical practice. It includes book reviews and details of lectures and symposia on issues raised by the practice of medicine.

Editorial Board

EDITOR:

Raanan Gillon, BA (PHILOSOPHY), MB, BS, MRCP, Assistant Director, Society for the Study of Medical Ethics; Director, Imperial College Health Service, London University.

CONSULTING EDITORS:

Sir Douglas Black Emeritus Professor of Medicine, Manchester University.
D W Hamlyn, Professor of Philosophy and Classics, Birkbeck College, London University and Editor of *Mind*.

EDITORIAL BOARD:

Thomas Oppé, Chairman, Professor of Paediatrics, St Mary's Hospital Medical School, London.

K M Boyd, Scottish Director, Society for the Study of Medical Ethics, Edinburgh.

Alastair Campbell, Senior Lecturer, Department of Christian Ethics and Practical Theology, Edinburgh University.

A W Clare, Professor of Psychological Medicine, St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, London.

Robin Downie, Professor of Moral Philosophy, Glasgow University.

A S Duncan, Emeritus Professor of Medical Education, Edinburgh University.

C M Fletcher, Emeritus Professor of Clinical Epidemiology, London University.

Michael F Green, Consultant Physician, The Royal Free Hospital, London.

R M Hare, White's Professor of Moral Philosophy and Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

Roger Higgs, General Practitioner and Director of General Practice Studies, King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry, London.

Gerard J Hughes SJ, Department of Philosophy, Heythrop College, London.

Peter Huntingford, Consultant, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone.

Margot Jefferys, Emeritus Professor of Medical Sociology, Bedford College, London.

Ian Kennedy, Professor of Law, Medicine and Ethics, King's College, London.

David Paterson, Executive Producer, Science and Features, BBC Television, London.

Raymond Plant, Professor of Politics, Southampton University.

Sir Desmond Pond, Chief Scientist, Department of Health and Social Security.

Sir Martin Roth, Professor of Psychiatry, Cambridge.

Robert Sells, Director, Renal Transplant Unit, Liverpool Royal Infirmary, Liverpool.

Gerald Stern, Consultant Neurologist, University College Hospital, London.

J S K Ward, Professor of Moral and Social Theology, King's College, London.

R B Welbourn, Emeritus Professor of Surgical Endocrinology, Royal Postgraduate Medical School, London.

Eric Wilkes, Professor of Community Care and General Practice, Sheffield University.

Bernard Williams, Provost, King's College, Cambridge.

Jenifer Wilson-Barnett, Reader, Department of Nursing Studies, Chelsea College, London University.

Edward Shutter, Director of Studies, Society for the Study of Medical Ethics, *ex officio*.

TECHNICAL EDITOR:

Ann Lloyd, London.

Submitting manuscripts for publication

Papers submitted for publication should be sent in triplicate to: The Editor, *Journal of Medical Ethics*, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9LG. Rejected manuscripts are not returned unless accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope, or international reply coupon. Papers should be in double-spaced typewriting on one side of the paper only. On a separate sheet a brief entry for 'Contributors to this issue' should be supplied, containing the title of the author's present post, degrees and/or professional qualifications, and any other relevant information.

Four copies of the *journal* will be sent to authors free of charge after their papers are published. Offprints of individual papers may be bought from The Publisher, *Journal of Medical Ethics*, Tavistock House East, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR.

In March 1981 the *JME* adopted a simplified 'Vancouver style' for references: details are given in various issues including December 1983, p 234. They are also available from the editorial office. The full text of the 'Vancouver Agreement' was published in the *British Medical Journal* in 1982; volume 284; 1725/1814. As the 'Vancouver style' is incompatible with the long established style of references for legal articles, lawyers should use their own standard style, but avoid abbreviations so as to facilitate reference by others. The *journal* is multidisciplinary and papers should be in clear jargon-free English, accessible to any intelligent reader.

Notice to subscribers

The *Journal of Medical Ethics* is published quarterly. The annual subscription rates are £24.00 in the United Kingdom and Irish Republic, and US \$61.00 in all countries overseas. Payment for overseas subscriptions should be made in dollars, ie US \$61.00, or in your national currency based on the prevailing exchange rate to the US dollar of that currency, payable to Professional and Scientific Publications/JME A/c. Orders can also be placed locally with any leading subscription agent or bookseller. (For the convenience of readers in the USA subscription orders, with or without payment, can also be sent to: Professional and Scientific Publications, *British Medical Journal*, Box No. 560B, Kennebunkport, Maine 04046. All enquiries, however, must be addressed to the Publisher in London). All enquiries regarding air mail rates, single copies, advertisements, etc, should be sent to: The Publisher, *Journal of Medical Ethics*, Tavistock House East, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR.

ISSN 0306-6800

Copyright © 1984 *Journal of Medical Ethics*. All Rights Reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the *Journal of Medical Ethics*.

Thematic review and index

The thematic review of past issues appears in the June issue each year and an index to each volume appears in the December issue.

psychiatric assessment but alternative facts should be considered before this view is accepted. The distribution of child psychiatrists throughout the country for example, is likely to be uneven, leaving some areas with negligible coverage. There may be an assumption amongst other professionals that families will not meet the local criteria for treatment or that the waiting lists are too long (3). For instance, the mother in Case 2 did not speak English and the mother in Case 3 was unlikely, because of her condition, to have attended a clinic. The structural division with psychiatry under the health service and social services departments under the local authorities may also serve to emphasise different professional attitudes and priorities. This gulf in understanding is illustrated by a child psychiatrist who regularly requested Place of Safety Orders on children in hospital from the duty social worker at 4.00 pm on a Friday as if he was asking for a simple physical test to be carried out. Finally in contrast to the examples given, few family psychiatrists make domiciliary visits which excludes a large number of non-coping families from their orbit.

While the cases presented in the article are of interest, its tone is of more concern. The writer shows an element of distrust of social work as a profession in relationship to child psychiatry and does not appear to

see a working relationship between them, echoing the views expressed by another psychiatrist (4). With limited resources at the disposal of the disadvantaged in society it is surely time to build bridges across professional divides, not accentuate them. Much could be done at a local level. For instance, regular discussions between the child psychiatrist and social workers at an area office could increase understanding of policies and procedures and provide the psychiatrist with an informal view of the needs of some families in the neighbourhood. In this way more child psychiatrists might become familiar with the political and legal context of the social worker's task and social workers might more readily recognise and use the skills of the child psychiatrist.

References

- (1) The Barclay Report. *Social workers: their role and tasks*. London: Bedford Square Press, 1982.
- (2) *Children and Young Person's Act 1969*. London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office.
- (3) Jones D N, ed. *Understanding child abuse*. London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1982.
- (4) Brewer C, Lait J. *Can social work survive?* London: Temple Smith, 1980.

Books received

This is a list of books received for review consideration in the *Journal of Medical Ethics* from January 1984.

Shelp Earl E. *The Clinical Encounter*. Dordrecht, Boston, London, D Reidel Publishing Company, 1983. Cloth Dfl 100, US \$39.50

Sinha A K. *Philosophy of Health and Medical Sciences*. India, The Associated Publishers, 1983. 125 rupees hardback.

Hospital Chaplaincies Council. Our Ministry and Other Faiths - a Booklet for Hospital Chaplains. London, CIO Publishing, 1983. £1.20.

Doherty Peter. *Medical Ethics*. London, Guild of Catholic Doctors, 1983. £1.00 (Inland). Postage extra if overseas.

Report on Euthanasia, Aiding Suicide and Cessation of Treatment. Law Reform Commission of Canada, 1983. Available by mail free of charge from: Law Reform Commission of Canada, 130 Albert Street, 7th Floor, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0L6.

Jones D Gareth. *Brave New People: Ethical Issues at the Commencement of Life*. Nottingham, Inter-Varsity Press, 1984. £3.95 paperback.

Aitken J T, Fuller H W C, eds. *The Influence of Christians in Medicine*. London, Christian Medical Fellowship, 1984. £3.95 paperback.

Szasz Thomas S. *Ideology and Insanity: Essays on the Psychiatric Dehumanization of Man*. London, Marion Boyars Publishers Ltd. 1984. £4.95 paperback.

Contributors to this issue

Dame Elizabeth Ackroyd is Chairman of the Patients Association.

R C Benians is a Consultant Psychiatrist to Ealing Child Guidance Service and works part-time with Barnardo's, a voluntary child-care organisation. He also prepares reports for court in child care cases.

Sir Douglas Black is Emeritus Professor of Medicine at Manchester University and a former President of the Royal College of Physicians.

Kenneth Boyd is Scottish Director and Research Fellow of the Society for the Study of Medical Ethics. He is also Honorary International Chaplain, Edinburgh University.

Simon A Brooks is Psychiatrist, Regional Psychiatric Centre, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

K C Calman is Professor of Clinical Oncology at Glasgow University. He was initially trained in surgery, became interested in cancer management and was appointed to the Cancer Research Campaign chair in 1974.

Colleen D Clements is a philosopher who is Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Co-Director of the Program in Psychiatric Ethics at Rochester University School of Medicine, New York, USA.

Judy Foster is a training officer in the Social Services Department of the London borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

Samuel Gorovitz is Professor of Philosophy, Maryland University, Maryland, USA.

John Harris is Senior Lecturer in Philosophy in the Department of Education, Manchester University. His book on medical ethics will be published in 1985.

Christopher Meyers is a doctoral student in Philosophy in the University of Tennessee Inter-Campus Graduate Program in Medical Ethics.

Mary Midgley was formerly Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, Newcastle on Tyne University. She is the author of *Beast and Man*, *Heart and Mind*, *Animals and Why They Matter* and, with Judith Hughes, *Women's Choices*, *Philosophical Problems Facing Feminism*.

George S Robertson is Consultant in Anaesthetics, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary and Honorary Senior Lecturer in Anaesthetics, Aberdeen University.

Adrian Rogers is an NHS and private family doctor, an occasional medical writer and a keen campaigner on social issues. He describes himself as a wrestler with ethical issues and as far as anyone else from achieving even the boundaries of self perfection.

Roger C Sider is Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Director, Undergraduate Education and Co-Director, Program in Psychiatric Ethics, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Rochester, NY, USA.

American correspondent

Bernard Towers, *Department of Pediatrics, University of California at Los Angeles.*

Case conference editor

Roger Higgs, *81 Brixton Water Lane, London SW2 1PH.*

Lectures and symposia

Tuesday 9 October

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE: WERE THE SPARTANS RIGHT? 6 pm, Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham

Thursday 11 October

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: SEX RESEARCH AND SEX THERAPY: THE ETHICS OF THE SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE. 5.45 pm, Guy's Hospital

Tuesday 16 October

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: A TREATMENT WORSE THAN DEATH? PROBLEMS OF LEUKAEMIA PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. 5.45 pm, King's College Hospital

Thursday 18 October

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP FILM AND DISCUSSION: GLUE-SNIFFING: IS SOLVENT ABUSE A MEDIA-MADE ADOLESCENT PROBLEM? 5.45 pm-7.15 pm, The London Hospital

Tuesday 23 October

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: THE VIOLENT OFFENDER: HOSPITAL TREATMENT OR PRISON SENTENCE? 5.45 pm, Middlesex Hospital

Wednesday 24 October

SHEFFIELD MEDICAL GROUP: ANTI-PSYCHIATRY. 8 pm, lecture theatre 3, The Medical School, Beech Hill Road, Sheffield

Thursday 25 October

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: PREPARING FOR NUCLEAR WAR: IS THERE A ROLE FOR THE DOCTOR? 5.45 pm, Royal Free Hospital

OXFORD MEDICAL FORUM SYMPOSIUM: BRITISH DOCTORS AND ASIAN PATIENTS - A TWO-SIDED PROBLEM? 8.30 pm, Ida Green Seminar Room, Green College, Woodstock Road, Oxford

Monday 29 October

EDINBURGH MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: HEALTH RISKS OF THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY. 5.15 pm, Meadows lecture theatre, Medical School, Teviot Place, Edinburgh

Tuesday 30 October

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: DIAGNOSING SCHIZOPHRENIA: THE PITFALLS AND THE CASUALTIES. 5.45 pm, St Bartholomew's Hospital

Wednesday 31 October

EDINBURGH MEDICAL GROUP LUNCHTIME SEMINAR: THE ETHICS OF INTENSIVE NEONATAL CARE. 1-2 pm, Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh

Thursday 1 November

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: SELECTIVE ABORTION AND THE SEARCH FOR HUMAN PERFECTION. 6 pm, St George's Hospital, Tooting

Saturday 3 November

ABERDEEN MEDICAL GROUP SEMINAR: MEDICINE AND THE THIRD WORLD. 9.45 am-5 pm, College of Nursing, Westburn Road, Foresterhill Site, Aberdeen

Tuesday 6 November

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: BREAST CANCER: IS MASTECTOMY MUTILATION OR TREATMENT? 5.45 pm, St Mary's Hospital

Wednesday 7 November

EDINBURGH MEDICAL GROUP LUNCHTIME SEMINAR: CHILDLESSNESS - THE PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS. 1-2 pm, Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh

Thursday 8 November

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: STILLBIRTH: GRIEVING FOR SOMEONE YOU NEVER MET? 5.45 pm, St Thomas's Hospital

OXFORD MEDICAL FORUM SYMPOSIUM: THE INTERESTS OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY ARE NOT IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PATIENT. 8.30 pm, Ida Green Seminar Room, Green College, Woodstock Road, Oxford

Tuesday 13 November

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: SURROGATE MOTHERHOOD: PROSTITUTION OR PROGRESS? 5.45 pm, University College Hospital

Wednesday 14 November

EDINBURGH MEDICAL GROUP LUNCHTIME SEMINAR: THE ETHICS OF *IN VITRO* FERTILISATION. 1-2 pm, Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh

SHEFFIELD MEDICAL GROUP: VIVISECTION-ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS IN MEDICINE. 8 pm, lecture theatre 3, The Medical School, Beech Hill Road, Sheffield

Thursday 15 November

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: THE CHALLENGE OF AIDS: SOCIAL, CLINICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS. 6.30 pm, Westminster Hospital

Tuesday 20 November

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: UNLOVELY AND UNLOVED: CLINICAL AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS OF THE ELDERLY. 6 pm, Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham

Thursday 22 November

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: PARENTAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN: NO CASE FOR A SECOND BASH. 5.45 pm, Guy's Hospital

Friday 23 November

ABERDEEN MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM WITH VIDEOS: NATURAL CHILDBIRTH. 7 pm, College of Nursing, Westburn Road, Foresterhill Site, Aberdeen

Monday 26 November

EDINBURGH MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: ARE WE CHOOSING THE BEST? - SELECTION OF STUDENTS. 5.15 pm, Meadows lecture theatre, Medical School, Teviot Place, Edinburgh

Tuesday 27 November

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND PUBLIC SERVICE: IS THE NHS SAFE? 5.45 pm, King's College Hospital

SHEFFIELD MEDICAL GROUP: ETHICS - ITS PLACE IN MEDICAL EDUCATION. 8 pm, lecture theatre 3, The Medical School, Beech Hill Road, Sheffield

Thursday 29 November

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: TECHNOLOGY IN OBSTETRICS: TOO MUCH MONITORING? 5.45 pm, The London Hospital

OXFORD MEDICAL FORUM SYMPOSIUM: INDUSTRIAL RADIATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH - ARE THEY COMPATIBLE? 8.30 pm, Ida Green Seminar Room, Green College, Woodstock Road, Oxford

Tuesday 4 December

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: MADNESS AND THE PSYCHOPATHOLOGY OF LEADERSHIP. 5.45 pm, Middlesex Hospital

Thursday 6 December

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP SYMPOSIUM: PARENTAL ATTITUDES TO ADOLESCENT SEXUALITY. 5.45 pm, Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead

Tuesday 11 December

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP FILM AND DISCUSSION: NATURAL CHILDBIRTH. 5.45 pm, St Bartholomew's Hospital

Medical groups

ABERDEEN MEDICAL GROUP

Mrs Elaine Foreman, Clinical Psychology Dept, Elmhill House, Royal Cornhill Hospital, Cornhill Road, Aberdeen

BIRMINGHAM MEDICAL GROUP

Mr R Sawers, Birmingham Maternity Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Medical Centre, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TG

BRISTOL MEDICAL GROUP

Mr Christopher Spencer-Jones, c/o Dolphin House, Bristol Royal Infirmary, Upper Marlborough Street, Bristol

CAMBRIDGE MEDICAL GROUP

Mr Patrick Doyle, Department of Urology, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Hill's Road, Cambridge

CARDIFF MEDICAL GROUP

Mr Mike Spencer, Principal Pharmacist, University Hospital of Wales, Heath Park, Cardiff CF 4XN

DUNDEE MEDICAL GROUP

Dr David B Walsh, Consultant in Biochemical Medicine, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee

EDINBURGH MEDICAL GROUP

Mrs Maureen S Macmillan, 1 Bristo Square, Edinburgh EH8 9AL

GLASGOW MEDICAL GROUP

Mr Sam Galbraith, Institute of Neurological Sciences, Southern General Hospital, Glasgow

LEEDS MEDICAL GROUP

Dr Stephen Singleton, Department of Medicine, Leeds General Infirmary, Leeds

LEICESTER MEDICAL GROUP

Dr Liam Donaldson, Department of Community Health, Clinical Sciences Building, Leicester Royal Infirmary, PO Box 65, Leicester LE2 7LX

LIVERPOOL MEDICAL GROUP

Mr Roger Cudmore, Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Eaton Road, Liverpool

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP

Miss Susan French, Room 68, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9LG

MANCHESTER MEDICAL GROUP

Dr Mary Lobjoit, Student Health Centre, Crawford House, Precinct Centre, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9QS

NEWCASTLE MEDICAL GROUP

Dr David Gregory, Department of Family and Community Medicine, The Medical School, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU

OXFORD MEDICAL FORUM

Mr Andrew West, Osler House, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headington, Oxford

SHEFFIELD MEDICAL GROUP

Mr David Watmough, Flat 3, 16 Beech Hill Road, Broomhill, Sheffield S10 2SB

SOUTHAMPTON MEDICAL GROUP

Dr R Grimble, Department of Nutrition, Medical and Biological Sciences Building, Bassett Crescent East, Bassett, Southampton SO9 3TU

Medical groups associated with the Society for the Study of Medical Ethics have been established in British university teaching hospitals. Each academic year they arrange programmes of lectures and symposia on issues raised by the practice of medicine which concern other disciplines. Although these programmes are addressed primarily to medical, nursing and other hospital students they are open to all members of the medical, nursing and allied professions. There is no fee for attendance. Lecture lists are available by direct application to the appropriate co-ordinating secretary named above. A stamped addressed A4 envelope would be appreciated.

Society of Apothecaries of London

Diploma in the Philosophy of Medicine

The first year of the two-year Course leading to the examination for the Diploma in the Philosophy of Medicine of the Society of Apothecaries will begin on Saturday, 6th October 1984. The course is addressed primarily to graduates and students of Medicine and lectures will be given on alternate Saturday mornings in London by lecturers in philosophy and medical ethics. Some written work will be required during the first year.

Further information and application forms are available from the Registrar (Philosophy of Medicine Course), The Society of Apothecaries, Black Friars Lane, London EC4V 6EJ.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Medico-legal Studies: Essay Prizes

Ver Heyden de Lancey Prizes, 1985, of between £500 and £4,000 are offered for substantial essays in medico-legal studies by graduates of the University of Cambridge with a professional qualification in medicine (including dentistry) or in law. Prior approval of subjects is required. Further details from: University Registry, The Old Schools, Cambridge, CB2 1TN.



WESTMINSTER INSTITUTE
FOR ETHICS AND HUMAN VALUES

DIRECTOR

Applications and nominations for the position of Director are invited

Qualifications: Terminal degree, Publications, Five years' experience

Jointly established in 1979 by Westminster College and the University of Western Ontario, the Institute engages in interdisciplinary research and public education concerning ethical, social, legal, theological, and philosophical dimensions of human life and institutions. During the past five years, the Institute's research has focused on bioethics, values and the law, business and professional ethics, and ethical aspects of population. The tasks of the Director include general administration, budget preparation, recruitment and supervision of personnel, planning the direction of future activities, preparing grant proposals, representing the Institute to the public, research and limited teaching. The position is available now and applications will be accepted until it is filled; starting date negotiable. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada. Applications and nominations should include a *curriculum vitae*. Three letters of recommendation should be sent by the referees.

Address all communications to:

Search Committee for Director,
Westminster Institute, 361 Windermere Road, London, Canada N6G 2K3

OFFICERS

Director of Studies
Edward Shotter

Scottish Director
Kenneth Boyd

Honorary Assistant Directors
Brendan Callaghan SJ,
Raanan Gillon, Patrick Magee,
Richard Nicholson

Treasurer Allan Chappell

Secretaries Maureen Bannatyne,
Susan French, Rosemarie Nelson

GOVERNING BODY

R B Welbourn Chairman
*Emeritus Professor of Surgical
Endocrinology, Royal Postgraduate
Medical School*

Sir Douglas Black
*Emeritus Professor of Medicine,
Manchester University*

R D Catterall
*Consultant Venerologist, Middlesex
Hospital*

A W Clare
*Professor of Psychological Medicine,
St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical
College, London*

Sir Cyril Clarke
*Formerly President, Royal College of
Physicians*

Colin Currie
*Senior Lecturer in Geriatric Medicine,
Edinburgh University*

Sir John Donne
Chairman of the NHS Training Authority

C H Edwards
*Formerly Dean, St Mary's Hospital
Medical School*

C M Fletcher
*Emeritus Professor of Clinical
Epidemiology, London University*

T W Glenister
*Dean, Charing Cross Hospital
Medical School*

Ian Kennedy
*Professor of Medical Law and Ethics,
King's College, London*

The Rt Hon The Earl of Limerick
*Chairman of Finance and General
Purposes Committee*

Stephen Lock
Editor of the British Medical Journal

T E Oppé
*Professor of Paediatrics, St Mary's
Hospital Medical School, London*

Sir Desmond Pond
*Chief Scientist, Department of Health
and Social Security*

Robert Sells
*Director, Renal Transplant Unit,
Liverpool Royal Infirmary, Liverpool*

Paul Kelly
President, London Medical Group

Patrick Seal
Vice-President, London Medical Group

David Pearson
Chairman, Edinburgh Medical Group

Society for the Study of Medical Ethics

The Society for the Study of Medical Ethics is an independent, non-partisan organisation for the multidisciplinary study of medico-moral issues raised by the practice of medicine.

The Society aims to influence the quality of both professional and public discussion of medico-moral questions; to promote the study of medical ethics; to ensure a high academic standard for this developing subject; to encourage a multidisciplinary approach to discussion of the consequences of clinical practice; to stimulate research in specific problems; to remain non-partisan and independent of all interest groups and lobbies.

Since 1963 the London Medical Group, a student group for the study of medico-moral issues raised by the practice of medicine, has arranged a series of lectures and symposia, now twice weekly throughout the academic year, in the 12 London teaching and medical schools.

In 1967 The Edinburgh Medical Group was established with similar aims, and subsequently medical groups have been formed in a majority of the British medical schools – currently Newcastle, Sheffield, Glasgow, Bristol, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Cardiff, Southampton, Aberdeen, Dundee, Cambridge, Oxford, Leicester and Leeds.

In 1972 junior doctors, who had themselves been associated with the London Medical Group, founded the Society for the Study of Medical Ethics to develop these aims at a postgraduate level.

In 1975 research fellows were appointed by the Edinburgh Medical Group which established, in conjunction with the University of Edinburgh, a research project in medical ethics and education.

The Society for the Study of Medical Ethics is a registered educational charity and a Company Limited by Guarantee. It relies on voluntary grants and donations and is not supported from government sources.

There is no individual membership of the Society. Those interested in this work are invited to subscribe to the *Journal of Medical Ethics*. The lectures, symposia and conferences of the associated medical groups, although addressed primarily to medical, nursing and other students, are open to all those professionally interested. Details are published in the *journal*

Society for the Study of Medical Ethics
Tavistock House North, Tavistock
Tel: 01-387 8132

