

## Editors-in-Chief

John Harris (UK)  
Søren Holm (UK)

## Deputy Editors

Richard Ashcroft (UK)  
Nikola Biller-Andorno  
(Switzerland)  
Kenneth Boyd (UK)

## Editorial Team

John McMillan (UK)  
Derek Morgan (UK)  
Michael Parker (UK)

## Consulting Editors

Roger Higgs (UK)  
Jonathon Glover (UK)

## E-letter Editor

L Bortolotti (UK)

## Chairman: Editorial Board

Roger Higgs (UK)

## Guidelines for Authors and Reviewers

Full instructions are available online at <http://jme.bmj.com/fora>. Articles must be submitted electronically <http://submit-jme.bmj.com>. Authors retain copyright but are required to grant Journal of Medical Ethics an exclusive licence to publish <http://jme.bmj.com/fora/licence.dtl>

**Impact Factor: 1.103**

**Disclaimer:** Journal of Medical Ethics is owned and published by the Institute of Medical Ethics and BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the British Medical Association. The owners grant editorial freedom to the Editor of Journal of Medical Ethics.

Journal of Medical Ethics follows guidelines on editorial independence produced by the World Association of Medical Editors and the code on good publication practice of the Committee on Publication Ethics.

Journal of Medical Ethics is intended for medical professionals and is provided without warranty, express or implied. Statements in the journal are the responsibility of their authors and advertisers and not authors' institutions, the BMJ Publishing Group Ltd or the BMA unless otherwise specified or determined by law. Acceptance of advertising does not imply endorsement.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the BMJ Publishing Group Ltd shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage resulting from the use of Journal of Medical Ethics or any information in it whether based on contract, tort or otherwise. Readers are advised to verify any information they choose to rely on.

# Journal of Medical Ethics reflects the whole field of medical ethics and aims to encourage a high academic standard for this ever-developing subject, and the enhancement of professional and public discussion

## Editorial Board

A Akabayashi (Japan); S Aksoy (Turkey); B Almond (UK); K Berg (Norway); B Blasszauer (Hungary); M Bojar (Czech Republic); M Brazier (UK); C Byk (France); A V Campbell (UK); R Chadwick (UK); F J da Rocha (Brazil); D Dickenson (UK); K Diesfeld (New Zealand); D Dooley (Ireland); R S Downie (UK); H E Emson (Canada); C C S Farsides (UK); S Glick (Israel); J Harris (UK); N Hicks (Australia); T Hope (UK); B Hurwitz (UK); I Kennedy (UK); I Kerridge (UK); P Kokkonen (Finland); Sir M Macnaughton (UK); R Magnussen (Australia); N Pfeffer (UK); A Pompidou (France); S Popova (Bulgaria); Q Ren-Zong (China); P Riis (Denmark); U Schuklenk (South Africa); G Serour (Egypt); M Siegler (USA); J Stanley (USA); C Stewart (Australia); M C Tai (Taiwan); J C Tealdi (Argentina); H ten Have (The Netherlands); J J M van Delden (The Netherlands); B Williamson (Australia); J Wong (China); Editor, BMJ (ex officio)

## Institute of Medical Ethics

The Institute of Medical Ethics is an independent, non-partisan organisation for the multidisciplinary study of medico-moral issues raised by the practice of medicine, and concerned with research, education, and information. It is financed by grants and donations from public and private sources. The Institute aims improve the quality of professional and public discussion of medico-moral questions; to promote the study of medical ethics; to promote high academic standards for this ever developing subject; to encourage a multidisciplinary approach to discussion of the consequences of clinical practice; to stimulate research into specific problems; and to remain non-partisan and independent of all interest groups and lobbies.

### President

Sir Kenneth Calman

### Vice-Presidents

Professor A V Campbell  
Very Reverend E Shotter

## Governing Body

*Chairman:* R Gillon. *Members:* M Brazier, M Brennan, G Clayden, C Currie, B Farsides, Z Fritz, S Glen, R Higgs, T Hope, M Lloyd, A Lucassen, H McHaffie, J Montgomery, A Pinching, A Slowther, A Sommerville, G Stirrat, B Vernon. *Honorary Members:* R Ashcroft, S Behaji, M Evans, J Harris, S Holm, J Macnaughton, M Rose. *Secretary:* K Boyd. *Finance Officer:* J Wallis.

## Subscription Information

Journal of Medical Ethics is published monthly (subscribers receive all supplements)

### Institutional Rates 2008

**Print**  
£326; US\$619; €482

### Online

Site licences are priced on FTE basis and allow access by the whole institution. Print is available at deeply discounted rates for online subscribers; details available online at <http://group.bmj.com/group/subs-sales/subscriptions> or contact the Subscription Manager in the UK (see above right)

Residents of some EC countries must pay VAT; for details call us or visit <http://group.bmj.com/group/subs-sales/subscriptions/subs-vat>

### Personal Rates 2008

**Print** (includes online access at no additional cost)  
£171; US\$325; €253

### Online only

£99; US\$188; €147  
ISSN: 0306-6800 (print)  
ISSN: 1473-4257 (online)

Personal print or online only and institutional print subscriptions may be purchased online at <http://group.bmj.com/group/subs-sales/subscriptions> (payment by MasterCard/Visa only).

**Copyright:** © 2008 BMJ Publishing Group Ltd and the Institute 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 Journal of Medical Ethics. • Journal of Medical Ethics is published by BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, typeset by The Charlesworth Group and printed in the UK on acid-free paper by Latimer Trend & Co Ltd, Plymouth. The Institute of Medical Ethics is a registered charity, No. 261876. • Journal of Medical Ethics (USPS No: 018-333) is published monthly by BMJ Publishing Group and distributed in the USA by SPP, 75 Aberdeen Road, Emigsville, PA 17318, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Emigsville, PA, USA. POSTMASTER: send address changes to Journal of Medical Ethics, PO Box 437, Emigsville, PA 17318-0437, USA

## Contact Details

### Editorial Office

BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, BMA House,  
Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, UK

T: +44 (0)20 7383 6139

F: +44 (0)20 7383 6668

E: [jme@bmjgroup.com](mailto:jme@bmjgroup.com)

### Permissions

See <http://journals.bmj.com/misc/permissions.dtl>

### Supplement Enquiries

T: +44 (0)20 7383 6057

F: +44 (0)20 7554 6795

E: [journals@bmjgroup.com](mailto:journals@bmjgroup.com)

### Subscriptions (except USA)

Subscription Manager, BMJ Journals, BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, PO BOX 299, London WC1H 9TD, UK

T: +44 (0)20 7383 6270

F: +44 (0)20 7383 6402

E: [subscriptions@bmjgroup.com](mailto:subscriptions@bmjgroup.com)

<http://group.bmj.com/group/subs-sales/subscriptions>

### US Subscriptions

PP&F, PO Box 361, Birmingham, AL35201-0361

T: +1 800 348 6473 (toll free in the USA)

F: +1 205 995 1588

E: [bmj-clinicalevidence@ebsco.com](mailto:bmj-clinicalevidence@ebsco.com)

### Advertising

T: +44 (0)20 7383 6181

F: +44 (0)20 7383 6556

E: [ecurrer@bmjgroup.com](mailto:ecurrer@bmjgroup.com)

<http://group.bmj.com/group/advertising>

### Author Reprints

Reprints Administrator

T: +44 (0)150 251 5161

F: +44 (0)20 7554 6185

E: [admin.reprints@bmjgroup.com](mailto:admin.reprints@bmjgroup.com)

**Commercial Reprints** (except USA & Canada)

Nadia Gurney-Randall

T: +44 (0)20 8445 5825

M: +44 (0)7866 262344

F: +44 (0)20 8445 5870

E: [ngurneyrandall@bmjgroup.com](mailto:ngurneyrandall@bmjgroup.com)

**Commercial Reprints** (USA & Canada)

Marsha Fogler

T: +1 800 482 1450 (toll free in the USA)

T: +1 856 489 4446 (outside the USA)

F: +1 856 489 4449

E: [mfogler@medicalreprints.com](mailto:mfogler@medicalreprints.com)