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HIV/AIDS and circumcision
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Embryo donation for research in China
Mitzkat et al have studied embryo donation for research in a Chinese IVF clinic using a range of methods, including interviews with five women who were asked to consent to donation of embryos for human embryonic stem cell research (See page 754). The paper shows the many complexities that arise when reproductive medicine meets medical research in the fertility clinic.

Student reporting of clinical misconduct
Are students willing to whistleblow when the misconduct of a colleague endangers the interests of patients? Mansbach et al studies this question in a questionnaire study of Israeli physical therapy students (See page 802). They show that students report that they are willing to whistleblow by reporting the misconduct to an authority within the healthcare organisation, but that they are considerably less willing to disclose misconduct to an external agency. The finding of a willingness to report misconduct internally is encouraging, although it is difficult to know whether willingness will lead to actual action.

Teaching military medical ethics through visits to Nazi death camps
Military medical ethics is not a topic taught in most medical schools and this means that when doctors become military officers they need specific training in this area. The paper by Oberman et al discusses one of the ways in which the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) teaches military medical ethics to members of it Medical Corps (See page 821). The ‘Witnesses in Uniform’ programme takes groups of IDF officers on structured tours of Holocaust memorial sites and Nazi death camps. Apart from the visits the programme involves group discussions of ethical dilemmas relevant to IDF officers during active missions. The authors show how this programme adds to more traditional didactic approaches to the teaching of ethics.

Solidarity, lifestyle and healthcare
Solidarity is often presented as one of the reasons why the public in Northern European welfare states support a public healthcare system. But the empirical scope of solidarity is not obvious when it comes to lifestyle. Do people feel solidarity towards others who have lifestyles that increase their risk of attracting certain diseases? The paper by Bonnie and colleagues investigates this issue in the Dutch population (See page 784). They show that solidarity with smokers and those who are overweight is moderate, and perhaps more surprisingly that solidarity with the old is also only moderate. They furthermore show that the degree of solidarity expressed depends on a range of characteristics of the respondents. If you are young, male, highly educated and have a healthy lifestyle you are prone to show low solidarity.

Banking boys’ testicular tissue
Should parents bank testicular tissue from pre-pubertal boys undergoing medical treatment that will lead to infertility, for instance chemo- or radiotherapy? Timothy Murphy provides a nuanced and insightful analysis of this question (See page 806). He argues that parents ought to protect the possible future interests of their sons. And, given that many / most adult men wish to have genetically related children this entails that parents ought to consent if testicular tissue banking is offered. Murphy further argues that although parents ought to consent to banking, clinicians and researchers should respect those parents who decline banking.

The concise argument
Søren Holm, Editor

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