The Journal of the Society for the Study of Medical Ethics

The Journal of Medical Ethics has been established, 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

EDITORS:

Raanan Gillon, BA (Philosophy), MB BS, MRCGP, Assistant Director, Society for the Study of Medical Ethics.

CONSULTING EDITORS:

A S Duncan, Emeritus Professor of Medical Education, University of Edinburgh.
C M Fletcher, Emeritus Professor of Clinical Epidemiology, University of London.

EDITORIAL BOARD:

R B Welbourn (Chairman), Professor of Surgical Endocrinology, Royal Postgraduate Medical School, London.
K M Boyd, Scottish Director, Society for the Study of Medical Ethics.
R D Catterall, Consultant Venereologist, Middlesex Hospital, London.
Robin Downie, Professor of Moral Philosophy, University of Glasgow.
G R Dunstan, Professor of Moral and Social Theology, King's College, London.
Michael P Green, Consultant Physician, The Royal Free Hospital, London.
Roger Higgs, General Practitioner, London.
Gerard J Hughes SJ, Department of Philosophy, Heythrop College, London.
Ian Kennedy, Faculty of Law, King's College, London.
Marshall Marinker, Professor of Community Medicine, University of Leicester.
Raymond Plant, Professor of Politics, University of Southampton.
Sir Martin Roth, Professor of Psychiatry, University of Cambridge.
Rt Hon Lord Justice Shaw, Lord Justice of Appeal.
Margaret Stacey, Professor of Sociology, University of Warwick.
Eric Wilkes, Professor of Community Care and General Practice, University of Sheffield.
Edward Shotter, Director of Studies, Society for the Study of Medical Ethics, ex officio.

TECHNICAL EDITOR:

Dorothy Mitchell Smith, Edinburgh.

Contents

Editorial

Ordinary and extraordinary means 55

Focus

The wrong doctors: selection or training at fault?
Alison Munro 57

Commentary  Bruce MacGillivray 59

Main articles

Learning about death: a project report from the Edinburgh University Medical School
Ian E Thompson, C P Lowther, Derek Doyle, Jeremy Bird and Jane Turnbull 62

Ethical aspects of clinical decision-making
I Kollemorten, C Strandberg, B M Thomsen et al 67

Students' attitudes to ethics in the medical school curriculum
Earl E Shelp, Michael L Russell and Nellie Grose 70

Debate

Extraordinary means and the sanctity of life
Helga Kuhse 74

Commentary  Gerard J Hughes SJ 79

Response  Helga Kuhse 81

Can fluids and electrolytes be 'extraordinary' treatment?
Carson Strong 83

The fragmented man
Margaret Blackwood 86

Words

Dignity and medical procedures
Alexander McCall Smith 88

The parliamentary scene

Medical responsibilities in the Third World
Tony Smith 91

Case conference

How do we teach medical ethics?
92

Book reviews
95

Thematic review of past issues
103

News and notes
110

Correspondence
111

Medical groups
112
Journal of medical ethics

Submitting manuscripts for publication

Papers submitted for publication should be sent in duplicate to: The Editor, Journal of medical ethics, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9LJ. 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. The corresponding author’s name and address should appear on the first page. Authors should also submit an interesting abstract with their papers. 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. Abbreviations should be avoided except for those in general use. The names of journals, organisations etc., should be given in full.

As from the beginning of Volume 7 (March 1981) JME has adopted a simplified ‘Vancouver style’ for references: details are given in JME, December 1980, p 214 and are also available from the editorial office. 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 English, accessible to any intelligent reader.

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.

Notice to subscribers

The Journal of medical ethics is published quarterly. The annual subscription rates are £16.00 in the United Kingdom and Irish Republic, and US $40.00 in all countries overseas. Payment for overseas subscriptions should be made in dollars, i.e., US $40.00, 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, 1172 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass. 02134. 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 © 1981 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.

Contributors to this issue

Jeremy Bird is a medical student at the University of Edinburgh Medical School

Margaret Blackwood is President of Disablement Income Group (DIG) Scotland and is also a trustee of the Margaret Blackwood Housing Association

Derek Doyle is Medical Director at St Columba’s Hospice, Edinburgh

Nellie Grose is Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Director of Education, Department of Family Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine

Gerard Hughes SJ Head of Department of Philosophy, Heythrop College, University of London but is at present with the Jesuit Community, Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA.

Helga Kuhse is Research Fellow with the Monash Centre for Human Bioethics

C P Lowther is Consultant Physician, Royal Victoria Hospital, Edinburgh

Alexander McCall Smith is a lecturer, Department of Civil Law, University of Edinburgh

Bruce MacGillivray is Dean, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, London

Alison Munro is Chairman of the Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth Area Health Authority (Teaching)

P Riis, corresponding author for ‘Ethical aspects of clinical decision-making,’ is Physician-in-chief, Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Michael I. Russell is Assistant Professor, Departments of Community Medicine and Psychiatry, Baylor College of Medicine

Earl E Shelp is Assistant Professor of Ethics, and Coordinator, Program in Ethics, Department of Community Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine

Carson Strong is Assistant Professor with the Program on Human Values and Ethics, University of Tennessee Center for Health Sciences, Memphis

Ian E Thompson is a Research Fellow to the Edinburgh Medical Group’s project in Medical Ethics and Education, University of Edinburgh

Jane Turnbull is a medical student at the University of Edinburgh Medical School.

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

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.
Thematic review of past issues

Volumes 1–7/1 (April 1975–March 1981 inclusive)

As a service to our readers we are continuing to publish annually, a compilation under thematic headings of articles which have appeared in the Journal since its inception in April 1975. Although we already publish at the end of each Volume (December issue) an Index for that Volume it is felt that this sort of list would allow new readers to see at a glance the range of topics covered so far. Some articles may have been omitted from this present list but are likely to appear in later issues as the scope of the articles published in this Journal widens. Our aim has been to show the main themes so far covered.

Readers will also appreciate that in some cases articles could easily have been classified differently. We have classified the articles into very broad categories which cannot always do justice to every aspect of their content.

Abortion and sterilisation

1975 VOLUME 1/1
Case conference: Abortion and sterilisation
Sir Dugald Baird, Hugh MacLaren and J E Roberts
Commentary—Raymond Plant

VOLUME 1/3
Editorial: The abortion issue

Main articles: Induced abortion: epidemiological aspects
Sir Dugald Baird
Main article: A new ethical approach to abortion and its implications for the euthanasia dispute
R F R Gardner

VOLUME 1/4
Editorial: Sterilisation
Focus: Child sterilisation
BBC Discussion

1976 VOLUME 2/1
Main article: Issues of public policy in the USA raised by amniocentesis
Amitai Etzioni

VOLUME 2/3
Main article: Congenital abnormalities and selective abortion
Mary J Seller

1977 VOLUME 3/2
The parliamentary scene: The Abortion (Amendment) Bill
Tony Smith

1978 VOLUME 4/1
Main article: Sterilisation: The Aberdeen experience and some broader implications
Sue Teper
Main article: Recent and possible future trends in abortion
François Lafitte

VOLUME 4/2
The parliamentary scene: Abortion and pregnancy screening

1979 VOLUME 5/3
Main article: Self-ownership, abortion and infanticide
Ellen Frankel Paul and Jeffrey Paul
Commentary: Gerard J Hughes SJ

VOLUME 5/4
Report from America: The trials of Dr Waddill
Bernard Towers
The parliamentary scene: Abortion (Amendment) Bill
Tony Smith

1980 VOLUME 6/1
Main article: The Marquis de Sade and induced abortion
A D Farr
The parliamentary scene: The Abortion Bill in committee
Tony Smith

Artificial insemination

1975 VOLUME 1/1
Main article: Donor insemination
M G Kerr and Carol Rogers
Main article: Problems of selecting donors for artificial insemination
R Schoysman
Main article: Cryobanking of human sperm
Max S Frankel
Main article: AID and the Law
D J Cusine
Main article: Ethical aspects of donor insemination
G R Dunstan
Volume 1/2
Focus: Our future
inheritance
R V Short

1977 Volume 3/4
Main article: Artificial insemination with the husband's semen after death
D J Cusine

1978 Volume 4/2
Case conference: Lesbian couples: should help extend to AIDS?

Volume 4/4
Report from America:
Louise Brown—a storm in a petri dish
Bernard Towers

Clinical research

1975 Volume 1/1
Main article: The composition and function of ethical committees
William W May

Volume 1/3
Main article: Some observations on informed consent in non-therapeutic research
J C Garnham

Volume 1/4
Main article: The inherent paradox of clinical trials in psychiatry
H Helmchen and B Muller-Oerlinghausen
Main article: The ethics of clinical trials
J K Wing

1977 Volume 3/1
Main article: Ethical problems of repetitive research
Report of a working party

1978 Volume 4/2
Main article: Testing new drugs—the human volunteer
Duncan Vere

Volume 4/4
Main article: Problems in deceptive medical procedures: an ethical and legal analysis of the administration of placebos
Beth Simmons

1979 Volume 5/1
Main article: A follow-up neurological study: why volunteer?
Jane S Sturges, Donald R Sweeney and David Pickar

1980 Volume 6/2
Editorial: Ethics, surgery and clinical research
Main article: Ethics and randomised clinical trials
Gustav Giertz
Main article: World Health Organisation, biomedical research guidelines and the conduct of clinical trials
Withold Rudowski
Main article: Taboos and clinical research in West Africa
O O Ajayi

Volume 6/3
Main article: Biological aspects of homosexuality
Malcolm MacCulloch

1981 Volume 7/1
Editorial: Huntington's chorea
Main article: Ethical aspects of plans to combat Huntington's chorea
C J Brackenridge

Main article: Medical experiments on human beings
Bernard Towers

Death and euthanasia

1975 Volume 1/1
Editorial: Euthanasia
Main article: Should the patient be allowed to die?
Richard Nicholson

1976 Volume 2/1
Focus: The Karen Quinlan case
Ian Kennedy

1977 Volume 3/1
Editorial: On dying and dying well
Focus: Diagnosis of brain death
Bryan Jennett
Focus: The definition of death
Ian Kennedy
Main article: Attitudes towards euthanasia
Carolyn Winget, Frederic T Kapp and RoseLee C Yeaworth

Volume 3/2
Focus: On dying and dying well: Extracts from the Edwin Stevens lecture
Donald Coggan
Case conference: Death my only love

Volume 3/3
Main article: Attitudes to death: some historical notes
Kenneth Boyd
Analysis: The right to live
D Hostler
Case conference: Officiously to keep alive

1978 Volume 4/1
Main article: Fetal survival—who decides?
Iain R McFadyen

Volume 4/2
Report from America: The impact of the California Natural Death Act
Bernard Towers

Volume 4/3
Case conference: After the first death there is no other

Volume 4/4
Main article: Dying while living: a critique of allowing-to-die legislation
Marc Lappé
1979 VOLUME 5/2
Main article: Deciding the care of severely malformed or dying infants
A G M Campbell and R S Duff
Main article: Learning about death
Una MacLean
Main article: The faces of death
G Popa and Ecaterina Hanganu

VOLUME 5/3
Debate: Selective non-treatment of newborns
Richard Sherlock
Response: A G M Campbell and R S Duff

VOLUME 5/4
Main article: Killing, letting die and euthanasia
Douglas N Husak

1980 VOLUME 6/2
Main article: The right to die and the chance to live
Jonathan E Rhoads
Report from America: A television triumph about death and dying
Bernard Towers

VOLUME 6/4
Editorial: Who shall die?

1981 VOLUME 7/1
Focus: On the death of a baby
Robert and Peggy Stinson
Commentary 1: R B Zachary
Commentary 2: A G M Campbell and D J Cuisine
Debate: Even dying must be edited: further thoughts on Joan Robinson
Stephen Curry, Arthur Zucker and Joanne Trautmann
Response: Bernard Towers

Doctor/patient relationship

1975 VOLUME 1/1
Main article: Communication with the dying
J M Wilson
Commentary—C M Fletcher

1977 VOLUME 3/2
Editorial: Strikes in the NHS
Main article: Strikes and the National Health Service: some legal and ethical issues
Gerald Dworkin
Commentary—Peter Zacharias
The parliamentary scene: Coming battles

1978 VOLUME 4/1
The parliamentary scene: Why doctors cause politicians trouble
Tony Smith

1979 VOLUME 5/2
Editorial: More struck against than striking
The parliamentary scene: Strikes by NHS workers
Tony Smith

1981 VOLUME 7/1
Main article: Consultants rule OK? the changing pattern of medical hierarchy
N F Coghill

Analysis: Determinism
R S Downie

VOLUME 1/2
Main article: Not quite what the patient ordered
Katherine Whitehorn

VOLUME 1/3
Analysis: 'Is' and 'ought'
Patrick MacGrath

VOLUME 1/4
Main article: Homosexuality and the medical profession—a behaviourist's view
John Bancroft
Analysis: Authority
C H Lesser

1976 VOLUME 2/1
Commentary on John Bancroft's article
'Homosexuality and the medical profession—a behaviourist's view'
Ruth A Schrock and Ian C Dunn
John Bancroft replies
Case conference: Limits of confidentiality

VOLUME 2/2
Main article: Interdisciplinary teamwork
M de Wachter
Main article: Some problems of confidentiality in medical computing
Barry Barber, R D Cohen, D J Kenny, J Rowson and Maureen Scholes

VOLUME 2/4
Main article: Medical practice: Defendants and prisoners
Paul Bowden
Main article: Is geriatrics the answer to the problem of old age?
I P H Millard
II Brice Pitt
III David Hobman
Case conference: Retreat from death?
1977 VOLUME 3/3
Main article: False belief and the refusal of medical treatment
Ruth and Alan Faden
Case conference: Changing direction in general practice

VOLUME 3/4
Main article: Privacy, confidentiality and automated health information systems
H Vouri

1978 VOLUME 4/1
Case conference: Conflict of loyalties—Hippocratic or hypocritical

VOLUME 4/4
Case conference: Fain would I change that note

1979 VOLUME 5/1
Point of view: More blessed to receive?
Anthony R Moore

VOLUME 5/2
Main article: The nature of confidentiality
Ian E Thompson

VOLUME 5/3
Editorial: BMA Ethical Handbook
Case conference: 'There's naught but Care on ev'ry han'

1980 VOLUME 6/1
Main article: The role of the doctor: technician or statesman?
R F Stalley

VOLUME 6/2
Editorial: The transsexual dilemma
Main article: Limitations of the surgical contract
Folke Nilsson
Main article: The delegation of surgical responsibility
John Cook
Main article: The transsexual dilemma: being a transsexual
Nicholas Mason

Main article:
Transsexualism: a medical perspective
C N Armstrong
Main article:
Transsexualism: a legal perspective
Joseph M Thomson

VOLUME 6/3
Main article:
Homosexuality and freedom of speech
R D Catterall

VOLUME 6/4
Focus: Triage and the patient with renal failure
V Parsons and P Lock
Main article: The hands of the healer: has faith a place?
Gaus Davies
The parliamentary scene:
Complaints and clinical judgment
Tony Smith

1981 VOLUME 7/1
Case conference: Where's there's no will there's no way

Drugs

1975 VOLUME 1/1
Main article: The use of narcotic analgesics in terminal illness
R G Twycross

VOLUME 1/3
Main article:
Self-medication with mood-changing drugs
D G Grahame-Smith

1976 VOLUME 2/2
Main article: What is barbiturate dependence and who is at risk?
Philip H Connell
Main article: Barbiturate abuse
P T d'Orban
Main article: The moral choice in prescribed barbiturates
Frank Wells
Case conference:
Volunteers at risk

VOLUME 2/3
Main article: 'Side' effects—a misnomer
C R B Joyce
Case conference: 'The soft embalmer of the still midnight'. A problem of prescribing hypnotics in general practice.

1977 VOLUME 3/1
Editorial: Physician heal thyself
Main article: Do drug advertisements provide therapeutic information?
Gerry Stimson

Medical ethics definitions and discussions

1975 VOLUME 1/1
Main article: Ethics and the professions
Lord Kilbrandon, P D Nutall and Zofia Butrym

VOLUME 1/4
Main article: Nursing ethics in the USA
Martin Bunzl

1976 VOLUME 2/1
Main article: Is a moral consensus in medical ethics possible?
Basil Mitchell
Analysis: Natural law
Gerard J Hughes SJ
The parliamentary scene:
Medical ethics in the House of Lords
Tony Smith
The literature of medical ethics—a review of the writings of Hans Jonas
F B K Cooper

VOLUME 2/2
Main article: Implications of medical ethics for ethics in general
Ian E Thompson
Analysis: Morality and religion
Ronald Hepburn

1977 VOLUME 3/1
Main article: The implications of medical ethics
Amnon Goldworth and Ian E Thompson
1978 VOLUME 4/1
Main article: Gifts, exchanges, and the political economy of health care
Part 11—How should health care be distributed?
Raymond Plant

VOLUME 4/2
Focus: The 'no lose' philosophy in medicine
S Galbraith

VOLUME 4/4
Focus: Human rights and distributive justice in health care delivery
Robert L Shelton

1979 VOLUME 5/1
Main article: What is medicine?: towards a philosophical approach
David Greaves

VOLUME 5/2
Main article: Choosing priorities
J A Muir Gray

VOLUME 5/4
Main article: Statistical lives and the principle of maximum benefit
Albert Weale
Main article: Informed consent: theory and policy
Carson Strong

1980 VOLUME 6/1
Editorial: Torture and philosophy
Focus: Self-help in health care
David Robinson
Main article: On the permissibility of torture
Gary E Jones

VOLUME 6/3
Editorial: Surgery for the mind
Main article: Doctors and torture: the police surgeon
Stanley H Burges
Main article: Doctors and torture: an experience as a prisoner
Alfredo Jadresic

Letter from Australia: Coming of age
Anthony R Moore

VOLUME 6/4
Case conference: A solitary mister
Report from America: The extent of public interest in medical-ethical legal problems
Bernard Towers

1981 VOLUME 7/1
Editorial: The 1980 Reith Lectures

Organ transplantation

1975 VOLUME 1/2
Main article: Transplantation
R Y Calne
Main article: Tissue for transplantation
Tam Dalyell MP
Main article: The donor doctor's dilemma
Bryan Jennett
Main article: Ethical aspects of donor consent in transplantation
John Mahoney
Main article: Transplantation: the relatives' view
Priscilla Demetrius and the parents of John

1979 VOLUME 5/1
Main article: The donation and transplantation of kidneys: should the law be changed?
Ian Kennedy

VOLUME 5/4
Debate: Let's not opt out: kidney donation and transplantation
Robert A Sells

1980 VOLUME 6/1
Debate: Kidney transplants: a reply to Sells
Ian Kennedy

Pain

1977 VOLUME 3/2
Main article: Patients with protracted pain: a survey conducted at a London Hospital
Jennifer M Hunt, Thelma D Stollar, David W Littlejohns, Robert G Twycross, Duncan W Vere

1978 VOLUME 4/3
Editorial: Facing pain
Main article: The assessment of pain in advanced cancer
Robert G Twycross
Main article: The value of clinics for the relief of chronic pain
Mark Swerdlow
Main article: Pain in childbirth
Sheila Kitzinger
Main article: The place of pain in human experience
Gilbert Lewis

1980 VOLUME 6/2
Focus: The hospital as a place of pain
D W Vere

Psychiatry, ethics and mental health

1976 VOLUME 2/3
Main article: Exorcism: psychiatric viewpoint
W H Trethowan

VOLUME 2/4
Focus: The care of the mentally abnormal offender and the protection of the public
Henry R Rollin
Focus: The concept of dangerousness
Alan Norton

1977 VOLUME 3/1
Editorial: Where are the promised secure units for the mentally ill?
Thematic review of past issues

1978 Volume 4/2
Editorial: Psychiatry, ethics and political intimidation
Declaration of Hawaii
Commentary—Clarence DD Blomquist
Main article: Political neutrality and international cooperation in medicine
H Merskey
Analysis: Mental disease
Antony Flew

Volume 4/3
Main article: Psychiatry as ideology in the USSR
Sidney Bloch

1980 Volume 6/1
Case conference: A volunteer by family choice

Volume 6/2
Case conference: Hallelujah, I'm a bum: a story from the post-Christian era

Volume 6/3
Main article: Psychosocial aspects of homosexuality
Sidney Crown
Main article: Ethical considerations of psychosurgery: the unhappy legacy of the pre-frontal lobotomy
Larry O Gostin
Commentary: P K Bridges

1981 Volume 7/1
Words: Mental illness
Roger Scruton

Teaching medical ethics

1975 Volume 1/2
Editorial: Teaching medical ethics
Main article: Teaching medical ethics in Sweden and USA
Clarence Blomquist, Robert M Veatch and Diane Fenner

1976 Volume 2/2
Main article: The teaching of medical ethics in the Netherlands
Paul Sporken

1977 Volume 3/4
Main article: The teaching of medical ethics at Southampton University Medical School
K J Dennis and M R P Hall

1978 Volume 4/1
Main article: The teaching of medical ethics:
University College, Cork, Ireland
Dolores Dooley Clarke

Volume 4/2
Main article: The teaching of medical ethics:
University of Nijmegen, Netherlands
Maurice De Wachter

Volume 4/3
Main article: The teaching of medical ethics:
University of Edinburgh
Kenneth Boyd, Colin Currie, Alison Tierney and Ian E Thompson

1979 Volume 5/2
Main article: Teaching medical ethics in the Federal Republic of Germany
Eduard Seidler

1979 Volume 5/4
Main article: Teaching medical ethics: the cognitive-developmental approach
Stephen A Goldman and Jack Arbuthnot
Commentary: Raanan Gillon

1980 Volume 6/1
Debate: Philosophy and teaching medical ethics
Jack Arbuthnot

Volume 6/2
Main article: Teaching medical ethics:
Ljubljana school of medicine, Yugoslavia
Janez Milcinski and Stefan Straziscar
Case conference: As the buds so the flowers: a discussion of medical education

Violence

1979 Volume 5/3
Editorial: An end to violence?
Main article: The origins of violence
H J Eysenck
Main article: The natural history of violence
Claire and W M S Russell
Main article: The general practitioner and the problems of battered women
Jan Pahl
Main article: Coping with the violent patient in accident and emergency
Sylvia Winterbottom
Main article: The response to violence
D J West
Main article: Violence: a summary
Conor Cruise O'Brien
Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons

A medical campaign against nuclear weapons has been started by a group of doctors in Britain. As persons involved in health care they are convinced that the prevention of nuclear war offers the only possibility of protecting people from its medical consequences. Their main aims are summarised as follows:

a) To keep under review available information on the medical implications of nuclear weapons, nuclear war and related subjects.

b) To act as a reference agency for information on these matters.

c) To provide information by lectures, publications and other means to the medical and related professions and to the public.

d) To bring to the attention of all concerned with public policy the medical implications of nuclear weapons.

e) To seek the cooperation of the medical and related professions in all countries for these aims.

The present office-bearers are Professor John Humphrey FRS (Chairman), Dr Jack Fielding FRCP (Vice-Chairman), Dr Nini Ettlinger (Treasurer) and Claire Ryle (National organiser). This national organising committee will coordinate regional activities. For details concerning membership please contact: MCANW 120 Edith Road, London W14. For any other information please contact Claire Ryle by telephone - 061-832 3709.

Workshop on Applied and Professional Ethics

This Workshop sponsored by The Hastings Center is being held from 5-11 July 1981 at Colorado College, Colorado Springs. One of the main purposes of the Workshop is to bring together, both formally and informally, people who are concerned to explore some major problems of applied and professional ethics.

The Workshop will be organised in such a way that occasions will be provided:

a) for some common selected problems to be discussed by the participants as a whole, and

b) for those with an interest in particular professions to spend time together working on problems within their profession or area of interest.

Anyone with a serious interest in applied and professional ethics is eligible to join this Workshop. For further details and application forms please contact: Workshop on Applied and Professional Ethics, The Hastings Center, 360 Broadway, Hastings-on-Hudson, New York 10706, USA.

1st International Congress on Nursing Law and Ethics

From 13-18 June 1982 at the Jerusalem Hilton Hotel the above Congress will meet to discuss the legal and ethical aspects of the nursing practice. The main topics include Education, Licensing and employment, Nursing laws, Nursing ethics, Nurse and the patient, Nurse and the staff, Practice and malpractice, Patients of various cultures and religions and Administration and organisation.

The Congress is being organised jointly by The National Association of Nurses in Israel, The Israel Medical Association and The Society for Medicine and Law in Israel. For further information please contact: The Secretariat, 1st International Congress on Nursing and Ethics, P O Box 29784, Tel Aviv, Israel.
Further information on Medical Groups

Further details and complete lecture lists are available from the secretaries of the medical groups listed below. Please enclose a stamped addressed A4 envelope.

ABERDEEN MEDICAL GROUP
Dr James Hendry, Medical Buildings, Foresterhill, Aberdeen AB9 22D

BIRMINGHAM MEDICAL GROUP
Dr Anthony Parsons, Department of Obstetrics, Birmingham Maternity Hospital, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15

BRISTOL MEDICAL GROUP
Dr Martin London, 11 Somerset Street, Kingsdown, Bristol BS2 8NB

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

CARDIFF MEDICAL GROUP
Dr Jonathan Richards, 10 St Fagan's Rise, Fairwater, Cardiff

DUNDEE MEDICAL GROUP
Dr Douglas Shaw, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, University of Dundee, Nine Wells Hospital, Dundee

EDINBURGH MEDICAL GROUP
Dr Brian Potter, EMG Project Office, 24 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh EH8 9LN

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

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
Dr Colin Powell, Department of Medicine, Royal Liverpool Hospital Liverpool L7 8XP

LONDON MEDICAL GROUP
Director of Studies, 68 Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9LG

MANCHESTER MEDICAL GROUP
Dr Mary Lobjoit, Teaching Unit 4, University Hospital of South Manchester, Nell Lane, West Didsbury, Manchester M20 8LR

NEWCASTLE MEDICAL GROUP
Dr Christopher Drinkwater, 14 Belle Grove Terrace, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE2 4LL

OXFORD MEDICAL FORUM
Dr James Falconer Smith, 20 Park Close, Bladon, Oxon OX7 1RN

SHEFFIELD MEDICAL GROUP
Dr Martin Hayes-Allen, 183 Whitham Road, Broomhill, Sheffield S10 2SB

SOUTHAMPTON MEDICAL GROUP
Dr Barbara Leppard, Department of Dermatology, Graham Road, Royal South Hants Hospital, Southampton
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 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 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 hospitals 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 and Leicester.

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 Square, London, WC1H 9LG.
Tel: 01-387 8132