

MEDICAL ETHICS

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What is medical ethics?

- Not simply as applied ethics.
- Neither as a synonym of medical professional ethics
- It is not only concerned with how ethical principles are applied to the area of medical practice, but also involved in a consideration of medical humanity.

Not a single issue but compounded by medicine and ethics

- It springs from the complication when medical technology has advanced in modern society, but, what kind of phenomenon is this?
- A medical issue or a social issue?

As a medical issue

- It is concerned with correct diagnosis and treatment.
- The criterion is based on the consistency and coherence of medical knowledge.

As a social issue

- It is concerned with good or right judgment.
- The restoration of practical wisdom (phronesis).

The difference of their episteme

- Medical knowledge is to get rid of obstacle of reality with a precise definition which can be deduced into systemic knowledge.
- Ethical knowledge is to constitute a universal valid science from particular, concrete experience by way of description.

The difference between professional ethics in medicine and medical ethics

- Professional ethics in medicine is determined by the structure of social science. Thus, its intention is really the convenience for the sake of management.
- Medical ethics is accomplished by the analysis of the question and logical reasoning. Thus, it aims at the revelation of medical humanity which is hidden in medical technique.

The dialogue between medicine and philosophy

- For medical specialist, they should realized that ethical issue is more than a common sense.
- For philosopher, they should know that they are not decision maker in their assistance.

Performance, Caring and Interpretation

- Therapeutic performance of physician is based on his medical knowledge, but this evaluation of objective knowledge is made on the basis of the sense of patient.
- Patient's treatment is for the sake of his own welfare, but in order to relieve his suffering, the diagnosis of his condition is relied on physician's rationality.

Intersubjectivity of medical ethics

- Medical ethics is formatted by mutual concern and interaction between physician and patient.
- Intersubjectivity is prior to subjectivity
- Subjectivity is the subjectivation of subjection to.