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Mary Lynn Dell and Kathy Kinlaw	

Familiarity with medical ethical theory and the history of bioethics is helpful for the understanding of the current state of bioethics, as well as possible future developments that will affect physicians and patients alike. This article reviews major schools of thought in bioethics and their relevance to clinical work with children, adolescents, and families. Child and adolescent psychiatrists need to be familiar with major ethical issues in general medicine, psychiatry, and pediatrics, in addition to those controversies that are more specific to their subspecialty. Employing a systematic approach for the identification and analysis of ethical concerns, such as the Four Topics Model of Jonsen and colleagues, improves child and adolescent psychiatrists' confidence that they are aware of ethical quandaries in practice and are addressing these issues in a transparent, well-informed manner.

Current Ethical Issues in Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy	21
Lee I. Ascherman and Samuel Rubin	

Core ethical principles for the conduct of psychotherapy with children and adolescents transcend times, trends, and jurisdictions. Advances in technology, variations in state law, and the evolution of federal law should stimulate consideration of how these ethical

principles apply to new situations; however, the guiding compass remains the psychotherapist's obligation to create and protect the integrity of the psychotherapeutic space to provide the child or adolescent the freedom to identify, examine, explore, and hopefully resolve the issues that bring one to treatment. Boundaries, privacy, confidentiality, and the patient's autonomy are components of this space. Together, they reflect a basic respect for the patient central to professional conduct and essential to any effective treatment process.

Ethics of Medical Records and Professional Communications

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Patricia R. Recupero

Please approve the following synopsis as it will appear in the table of contents: In child and adolescent psychiatry, medical records and professional communications raise important ethical concerns for the treating or consulting clinician. Although a distinction may be drawn between internal records (eg, medical records and psychotherapy notes) and external communications (eg, consultation reports and correspondence with pediatricians), several ethical principles apply to both types of documentation; however, specific considerations may vary, depending upon the context in which the records or communications were produced. Special care is due with regard to thoroughness and honesty, collaboration and cooperation, autonomy and dignity of the patient, confidentiality of the patient and family members, maintaining objectivity and neutrality, electronic communications media, and professional activities (eg, political advocacy). This article reviews relevant ethical concerns for child and adolescent psychiatrists with respect to medical records and professional communications, drawing heavily from forensic and legal sources, and offers additional recommendations for further reading for clarification and direction on ethical dilemmas.

A Doubtful Guest: Managed Care and Mental Health

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Edie Rosenberg and David Ray DeMaso

Please approve the following synopsis as it will appear in the table of contents: This article examines the ways in which mental health services have been affected by managed care and describes how to address some of the ethical conflicts that have always existed, but have been transformed immeasurably. It outlines the ethical dilemmas between the competing values of mental health providers and managed care, as well as the practical ethical considerations related to confidentiality, billing, and coding. It suggests that there can be no real improvement for mental health providers in the ethical minefield of managed care until they stop focusing on how distressed they are about it and start dealing with the larger, systemic issues in psychiatry and American health care. The article concludes by noting that the only way to effect meaningful change in the health care system is to combine

knowledge with advocacy and to proactively define the standards needed to make the necessary choices.

New Media and an Ethics Analysis Model for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

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Norman E. Alessi and Vincent A. Alessi

We and our patients are immersed in a mediascape that is unparalleled in history. It is a force of monumental proportion that for many youth competes with and has replaced parental, social, and cultural influences on their development. The ethical questions regarding this dynamic are frequently answered by little else than the application of vague and dated moral dictums based on “old media.” To engender a comprehensive understanding of how “new media” interacts with our patients, we suggest a new perspective on the differentiation of old media from new media. Then, using our conceptual model of new media, we break down the ethical questions into the several overlapping ethical areas, these being media, professional, and bioethical. To aid in the application of the system of thought we provide a structured system of ethical analysis. Through these, we hope that this issue can be looked at with increased clarity and guidance within a framework for future thought.

Ethics and the Prescription Pad

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Mary Lynn Dell, Brigitte S. Vaughan,
and Christopher J. Kratochvil

This article reviews the considerations that inform ethical psychotropic medication prescription processes at the clinical level with child and adolescent patients and their families or guardians. Physician attributes, cultural and religious factors, and the psychodynamic aspects of psychopharmacology are reviewed, in addition to the applications of basic ethical principles and concepts to the act of dispensing psychotropic medications. Attention is given to the processes of informed consent, assent, and challenges encountered to ethical prescribing for special populations such as children in foster care and juvenile justice systems. Ramifications of black box warnings and off label prescribing are discussed. Finally, the authors offer practical tips to guide clinicians in ethical psychopharmacologic management of their child and adolescent patients.

Conflicts of Interest Between Physicians and the Pharmaceutical Industry and Special Interest Groups

113

Diane H. Schetky

Health care in the United States is a tangled web of competing interest groups beneath which ethical conflicts of interest flourish.

Physicians, professional organizations, and academic medical centers must continually evaluate their relationships with the pharmaceutical industry as they relate to personal, professional, and institutional ethical values. This article explores the relevant pressing ethical issues and proposals for changing course and managing these potentially troublesome relationships.

Ethical Issues in Psychiatric Research on Children and Adolescents

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Jinger G. Hoop, Angela C. Smyth, and Laura Weiss Roberts

Please approve the following synopsis as it will appear in the table of contents: Psychiatric research on children and adolescents is ethically justified by the need to reduce the burden that mental illnesses place on young people, their families, and society. Such research must be conducted with careful attention to the ethical principles of beneficence, justice, and respect for persons. Child and adolescent psychiatrists who collaborate on research trials or advise patients and families about research participation should consider nine domains when evaluating the ethical acceptability of particular protocols. These domains include scientific merit and design; expertise, commitment, and integrity; risks and benefits; confidentiality; participant selection and recruitment; informed consent and decisional capacity; incentives; institution and peer/professional review; and data presentation. Special ethical issues in child and adolescent psychiatry research concern the use of randomized, controlled treatment trials; the informed consent process for research involving adolescents; the therapeutic misconception; and conflicts of interest in physician referrals.

Publishing Ethics in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: Essentials for Authors and Readers

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Garry Walter, Joseph M. Rey, Nerissa Soh, and Sidney Bloch

Please approve the following synopsis as it will appear in the table of contents: The ethics of publishing has received negligible attention in the child and adolescent psychiatry literature. We examine a range of ethical problems, including conflict of interest, bias, publishing fraudulent or inhumane research, redundant publication, plagiarism, concerns about authorship, insensitive use of language, and special issues about publishing research involving minors. Strategies to improve ethical standards of publishing are proposed.

Ethical Issues in Local, National, and International Disaster Psychiatry

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Paramjit T. Joshi, Marc E. Dalton, and Deborah A. O'Donnell

The world as we know it is plagued with conflict, yet little attention is paid to the inherent ethical issues and challenges related to trauma work. It is important to be aware of these issues

because they are bound to raise questions about how medical practitioners confer neutrality in the face of political agendas and war on one hand and maintain a commitment to a person's well-being on the other. When engaged in local, national, or international trauma work, cultural, ethnic, and political literacy is crucial, and an acknowledgment of one's subjectivity is paramount. There are contradictory points of view about practicing value-free psychiatry. Psychosocial programs should examine the long-term political consequences of their work as well as the short- and long-term humanitarian impact.

Ethics Education

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Arden D. Dingle and Margaret L. Stuber

This article briefly describes the background and status of medical education in the areas of ethics and professionalism. Methods of teaching and assessment are described for medical students, residents, and practitioners within the core competency framework of medical education. Key areas of content for child and adolescent psychiatrists are described.

The Role of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist on Health Care Institutional Ethics Committees

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Sandra B. Sexson and William R. Sexson

Over the past 30 years, institutional ethics committees have become the standard vehicle for addressing ethical issues in health care institutions. Early in this development, general psychiatrists became integrally involved; however, child and adolescent psychiatry roles on institutional ethics committees have been delineated less clearly. This article provides an overview of the functioning of institutional ethics committees, including composition and a definition of the roles across education, policy development, and case consultation. Within the context of the various roles of the institutional ethics committee, the potential contributions of a child and adolescent psychiatrist are defined and specific areas of expertise are delineated. Case examples are cited to demonstrate the unique contributions in the areas of developmental understanding, enhanced understanding of communication styles and failures, as well as an understanding of specific psychiatric factors and cultural issues that a child and adolescent psychiatrist may bring to the institutional ethics committee.

The Ethics Committees of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and the American Psychiatric Association: History, Process, Education, and Advocacy

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Adrian N. Sondheim and William M. Klyklo

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) are the primary organizational embodiments of the specialties of,

respectively, general psychiatry and child and adolescent psychiatry in the United States. Professional organizations set guidelines and standards for the expected behaviors of their members. To those ends, ethics committees were established by both the APA and the AACAP. This article describes how each of these organizations, via their committees, produced codes of ethics, and continuously provide relevant educational materials and advocacy efforts. It also reviews the APA ethics committee's responsibility for the evaluation of ethical complaints lodged against members. In closing, the article examines ethical dilemmas lurking on the horizon, beginning to be faced by the specialties and thus likely to be addressed by the committees.

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