



The Intensive Connection

Ethics section ESICM

Minutes of the meeting on 7 December 2020 (via ZOOM)

Attendants

Christiane Hartog, Diederik van Dijk (protocol), Yash Javeri, Bara Ricou, Adam, Anna Henrikje Seidelein, Charlie Sprung, Annette Robbertsen, Barbara Tamowicz, Flavio Nacul, Freda Ganz, Jos Latour, Spyros Mentzelopoulos, Rik Gerritsen, Laszlo Zube, Matty Koopmans, Niamh Freely, Nikolas Efstathiou, Monika Kerckhoffs, Paulo Maia, Andrej Michalsen, Victoria Metaxa

Minutes

The minutes of last year's section meeting in Berlin are approved.

Ethicus 2 study

Charlie Sprung gives an update of the Ethicus 2 project. The comparison study has been published in JAMA. The worldwide paper is now under review. Several country coordinators have received their country data for further analyses and studies. Country papers can be submitted after acceptance of the worldwide paper. Many other papers are now in preparation. Please send all potential papers to Charlie Sprung for approval.

EPICUS study

Spyros Mentzelopoulos presents his study on the Ethical Practice Score (EPS) which consists of 12 binary variables. It was retrospectively developed in an effort to interpret the findings of the JAMA Ethicus 2 comparison paper. Logistic regression analysis revealed that the EPS was a predictor of limitation decisions (Odds Ratio =1.22). The EPS was subsequently retrospectively collected for the worldwide Ethicus 2 paper. Logistic regression analysis again revealed that the EPS was an independent predictor of limitation decisions (OR=1.05). Additional analyses will be performed to determine the effect of EPS subcomponent variables.

Activities of the section since the annual meeting in Berlin in October 2019

Christiane gives an overview of the contributions of the ethics Section to this year's annual conference. This includes 6 videos on demand, 12 abstracts, and several live sessions. The paper on COVID triage by Charlie Sprung et al. will be presented during the hot topics session on Wednesday. Several sessions of our section were partly integrated into those of other sections. This makes the contributions of the Ethics section more attractive to attendants who do not have a main interest in ethics.

In December 2019, the section organized a Masterclass on end of life care and end of life decision making, directed by Rick Gerritsen and Andrej Michalsen. A 2021 edition of this well received masterclass is upcoming.



The Intensive Connection

Promoting the visibility and relevance of the Ethics section

Christiane mentions that the last year showed the relevance of ethical issues and different ethical approaches in different countries. A closer connection among members of the ethics section is needed. Further discussion distinguishes the aims of:

1. better contact with each other. The last year has shown that ethical Dr Yash Javeri volunteers to set up and moderate a combined WhatsApp and email group for the members of the Ethics Section. A digital meeting once per 3 months to discuss ongoing activities seems feasible.
2. improving our visibility for the whole ESICM by organizing webinars of general ethical interest.

If you would like to join the new WhatsApp & email-group of the Ethics Section, please send your email address and telephone number to Yash Javeri dryashjaveri@yahoo.com

Next year's conference in Copenhagen (fall 2021)

The Ethics section has been invited to fill a number of sessions during Lives 2021.

Suggestions for presentations or themes for Lives 2021 are welcome before 15 January. Please mail your ideas to christiane.hartog@mailbox.org and d.vandijk@umcutrecht.nl. Think about cooperation with other sections!