**Medical bioethics. MLT & Dental 8th semester.**

**Mid-term assignment paper.**

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1. **What do you know about Patient Autonomy? Explain why patients Autonomy play an important role in Medical bioethics?**

**Patient Autonomy:**

Autonomy is Greek word Autos mean “self” and Nomos mean” rule of law”. Thus Patient autonomy means that patient self-determination. Patient autonomy refers to “the patient rights to make decision for themselves, according to their own system of moral and beliefs”. This mean that each patient has the right to do whatever he wishes for his body as long as he understands the effects his decision may have his health or his life. Health care cannot take the decision of patient but medical health care only provide medical education.

**Importance of Patient Autonomy:** there are various important roles which Patient autonomy play in medical bioethics.

* Patient education and informed consent are important parts of suitable autonomy.
* Confidentiality less fit under the umbrella of autonomy.
* Patient autonomy increases the relation between health care provider and patient.
* Patient autonomy raises self-confidence of patient while fighting the disease.

1. **What is the importance of confidentiality and when can confidentiality be breached? Give some example?**

**Confidentiality**: when patient reveal information to their health care provider, the health care provider pledge not to reveal this information to a third party. Confidentiality provide trust between patient and doctor.

**Importance of confidentiality**

* Confidentiality play a significant role by keeping someone’s personal information secured.
* Important part of confidentiality is that it develops and builds loyalty and trust.
* It develops free flow of information between patient and doctor.
* Confidentiality is important because failure to keep information protected and secure can lead to the loss of patient.

**When can confidentiality be breached?**

There are two conditions under which confidentiality can be breached i.e. disclosure in public interest and discloser statutory bodies.

1. disclosure in public interest: disclosure in public interest mean that confidentiality can be breached under

* Prevent serious harm to people e.g. COVID-19 +Ve case.
* Prevent serious crime (e.g. Robbery or other terrorism activity)

1. disclosure to statutory bodies: disclosure to statutory bodies mean that confidentiality can be breached under

* Reporting of communicable diseases for example COVID-19 (the +ve case should be not kept in secret from the state authorities.
* Reporting when court order
* Death and birth for example if a person born or die it should be reported.

1. **What is the difference between beneficence and non-maleficence? Give some example?**

Beneficence and Non-maleficence are two different terms

**Beneficence:**

Beneficence literally means being charitable or doing well, beneficence is a process in which the medical healthcare provider takes actions or recommends courses that are in the patient best interest**.**

* It is not coercing or manipulating the patient into making a decision against their values.
* It is not euthanasia.
* Beneficence is not the same in total situation.

**Examples:** A doctor going to hospital in the bus, a person got unconscious due to hypoglycemia in the same bus. Doctor took the patient into the hospital. After giving necessary first aid the patient came to normal condition. Then the doctor accompanies the patient to his home.

**Non-maleficence:**

Non-maleficence is also related to beneficence. It is abstaining from any process that may come harm to the patient. Non-maleficence is latterly meant that do no harm.

* Non-maleficence is what you do not do.
* Refusing to prescribe opioids when deemed not necessary.
* Non-maleficence is conflict.

**Example:**

* Do not kill
* DO not cause or suffering to other
* Do not deprive other of the goods of life

1. Explain veracity? Truth telling is an important principle of Medical bioethics Give some example?

**Veracity:**

Truth telling is an important principle of Medical bioethics. Veracity means truthfulness. Veracity is a honesty, the most important part of medical condition to tell truthiness. It also includes informing a patient of any mistake that have been made in their care.

* It is not telling patient information that they tell you they do not want to hear.
* It is ok to first ask a patient if they want to hear their disease.
* It is ok to delay telling a patient their diagnosis until they are ready to hear it.
* Although it should never be delayed if it may compromise the ability to provide informed consent.

**Example:** if a person is suffering from chronic disease like diabetes so he/she should be informed on time to take care of his or her health and diet which may have long lasting impact on his/her health. On the other hand if a person has some serious health issues such as heart problems and its disclosure to the patient can cause further psychological pressure beside their heart disease should be not disclosed if the patient is not ready to hear it.

1. Explain some models of Doctor Patient relationship?

**Doctor Patient relationship:**

There are four basic model of doctor patient relationship, informative, interpretive, deliberative and paternalistic model.

**Informative model:** informative model is those doctors provide all facts to patient regarding treatment.

* Patient makes decision about facts.
* It increase patient autonomy

**Interpretive model:** interpretive model mean that doctor discusses patient management and also clarify patient value and promote patient understanding and give respect to patient decision.

**Deliberative model:** deliberative model mean that challenging and clarifying patient view doctor will friendly convince the patient and will impose his view which is in the best interest of the patient.

**Paternalistic model:** according to this model of doctor and patient relationship, as patient cannot voice wishes, the doctor have to own and take decision in the best interest of the patient similar like a father.

1. What is Euthanasia? Why is it a major issue in bioethics?

**Euthanasia:**

Euthanasia is Greek word that means good death. Euthanasia is a painless killing of a patient suffering from incurables and painful disease or irreversible coma.

Why is it a major issue in bioethics?

Euthanasia is a major controversial issue while taking some lives, because some time doctors overdose or use some drugs to relieve the patient from extreme state of their disease, but unintentionally the over dose may relieve the pain temporarily, but on the other side it may cause death of patient.

For example if a person is suffering from severe pain overdose of morphine is a pain killer may relieve the pain temporarily but led to the painless death of the patient