

Outlines of workshop on Islamic Medical Ethics

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•20 minutes: introduction to medical ethics

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•Case studies scenarios (90minutes)

Case (1)

YOU are a junior doctor in Surgical ward. The consultant comes to see new patients admitted. He didn't introduce himself to the patients. The consultant starts by listening to the registrar explaining the case. The discussion goes on for 15 minutes in front of the patient and other patients in the ward.

Many patients understand English, and can follow at least in part the discussion. The consultant then examines the patient without putting screens to give the patient privacy.

- What in your opinion was wrong on the attitude of the consultant towards the patient? What are the ethical issues raised by his behavior.**
- The open discussion in front of the patient and the other patients: Do you think it is right or wrong. What is the ethical issue here?**
- Suppose the patient had a serious disease, when and how to tell him the bad news?**

Case (2)

You are looking after a patient (already admitted) and you receive a telephone from somebody saying that he is a relative of Mr. (your patient), and he wants to know what is wrong with him.

What are you going say him?

Is it right to give him the knowledge he is asking for?

Case (3)

Suppose you are in a private clinic and your patient is suffering from: a) sexually transmitted Disease and he told you not to tell anybody about it.

His wife contacted you asking about her husband's disease?.

What are you going to say to her?

If the disease is treatable, but the patient does not follow your instructions, and the infection is still there. What are you going to do?

Case (4)

A young unmarried girl (15- 17 years) came to you and you found her suffering from genital warts (STD). You explained to her the diagnoses and she confessed to you that she had an affair (a sexual relation). She is not pregnant and she asks you not to tell her mother. The mother comes to you and wants to know the diagnoses?

Case (5)

A similar case to the previous case, but the girl is already pregnant. She is completely disturbed by the diagnosis. She is afraid of her family? She ask you to arrange for (1) abortion.

(2) Not to tell anybody about her case.

What are you going to do?

Case (6)

There is a proved case of rape. The girl wants you to prescribe for her postcoital pill. What are you going to do? Is early abortion allowed in such cases? Is the period of pregnancy important in the management from Islamic ethical point of view?

Case (7)

The guardian of a child aged 12 comes to the emergency department & you found him suffering from abdominal pain, fever and vomiting. After examining the patient you think he has acute appendicitis and you advise admission for surgical removal of the appendix.

The father refuses admission? You explained to him the dangers but he is still adamant to take the child away. What to do?

Case (8)

You are an obstetrician in private hospital and your patient whom you followed during pregnancy is now in labor. You noticed that the baby had a prolapse cord and the signs of distress of the baby are starting to appear. You advised caesarian, and you asked for preparing the theater and called for the anesthetist.

- a) The lady agrees but her husband refuses, as he thinks private hospital wants money.
- b) The lady refuses, but the husband accepts.
- c) Both of them refuse the operation.

Case (9)

40 years old heavy smoker lady is pregnant 8 weeks. She came to you to arrange for abortion. She is afraid of congenital anomalies, e.g.: trisomy, and her chest problem. She is not agreeing to stop smoking. What are you going to do.

After the scenarios (8-12 cores) these will be on introduction to Islamic medical ethics and prudence.

For 20 minutes and further discussion for another 20 minutes.