

MEDICAL UNIVERSITY – PLEVEN
FACULTY OF PUBLIC HEALTH



DAY OF BIOETHICS

08.04.2014

Telecommunication center of Medical University of Pleven

In 1970 Van Rensselaer Potter was the first to use the term 'bioethics' in a publication to advocate for a new discipline needed to address the basic problems of human flourishing. In his early publications, Potter conceptualized *bioethics as a bridge*.

First, it is a *bridge between present and future*; because of growing concerns about the future and the need to make sure that humankind will survive, bioethics is necessary as a new discipline to focus on long-term interests and goals; therefore it can be regarded as the science of survival.

Second, it is a *bridge between science and values*. The basic problems of humankind are multidimensional requiring us to combine all categories of knowledge and use really interdisciplinary approaches.

Third, it is a *bridge between nature and culture*. From an evolutionary perspective, both are not static but dynamic notions; they are continuously changing, evolving, sometimes for the better sometimes for the worse. All available knowledge should be brought together to direct developments towards real progress in the future.

Fourth, bioethics is a *bridge between humankind and nature*. Because the environment is increasingly polluted and natural resources more and more scarce, we need a new ethics that takes seriously the findings of the science of ecology and that regards human beings as interrelated with their environment.

In later publications Potter introduced the new name of '*global bioethics*'. On the one hand, he was disappointed about the development of bioethics with merely a focus on individual and medical issues. On the other hand, he wanted to underline the need for a broader perspective, transcending ethics specialties such as medical ethics, environmental ethics, agricultural ethics, social ethics and religious ethics, integrating them into a really new interdisciplinary intellectual and practical endeavor to approach the global problems of the world community and future generations.

The Day of Bioethics at the Medical University of Pleven and the student's contributions to case analyses in connection to ethical decision-making in health care demonstrate that this broader approach to bioethics is a reality. The cases analyzed have a wide range and consider many significant dimensions of present-day existence. The problems are also relevant for a variety of countries and people with different historical and religious backgrounds and from different cultures. The Day demonstrates that Global Bioethics is very much alive.

Henk ten Have, MD, PhD

Center for Health Care Ethics, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, USA

PROGRAMME

Hall „Ambroise Paré”

9:00 – 9:10	Opening and welcome address by the Rector of Medical University of Pleven, Prof. Dr Slavcho Tomov
9:10 – 10:40	Research integrity <i>Speaker: Prof. Henk ten Have, Doctor Honoris Causa Medical University of Pleven</i> <i>Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr Silviya Aleksandrova-Yankulovska</i>
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:30	Research ethics from a global perspective <i>Speaker: Prof. Henk ten Have, Doctor Honoris Causa Medical University of Pleven</i> <i>Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr Silviya Aleksandrova-Yankulovska</i>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:30	Informed consent. Revised Declaration of Helsinki 2013. <i>Speaker: Assoc. Prof. Dr Silviya Aleksandrova-Yankulovska</i>
14:30 – 14:45	Coffee break
14:45 – 15:45	Standard procedures of Research ethics committee of Medical University of Pleven <i>Speaker: Assoc. Prof. Dr Silviya Aleksandrova-Yankulovska</i>
15:45 - 16:00	Closing. Best poster award.

Foyer Telecommunication center

13:30 – 14:30	Students’ poster session „Ethical decision-making in health care“ – part I <i>Moderator: Prof. Henk ten Have, Doctor Honoris Causa Medical University of Pleven</i>
14:30 – 14:45	Coffee break
14:45 – 15:45	Students’ poster session „Ethical decision-making in health care“ – part II <i>Moderator: Prof. Henk ten Have, Doctor Honoris Causa Medical University of Pleven</i>

STUDENTS' POSTER SESSION

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Part I 13:30 – 14:30

Moderator: Prof. Henk ten Have

1	A case of sterilization of a patient with expressive aphasia <i>Ochuko Rebecca Eture (Nigeria)</i>
2	Request for abortion without informing the husband <i>Ahmad Kaab (Germany), Silviya Aleksandrova-Yankulovska</i>
3	Sex-selection and prenatal diagnosis <i>Maria Efthymiou (Greece)</i>
4	Huntington's chorea and IVF <i>Zehra Bahar (Turkey), Silviya Aleksandrova-Yankulovska</i>
5	Surrogate motherhood counseling <i>Charmini Balasubramaniam (UK), Silviya Aleksandrova-Yankulovska</i>
6	Brain Dead and Pregnancy: Termination of Life Support <i>Sarah O Sonde (UK)</i>

Part II 14:45 – 15:45

Moderator: Prof. Henk ten Have

7	Infringing patient autonomy <i>Hania Abbasi (UK), Silviya Aleksandrova-Yankulovska</i>
8	Maternal refusal of indicated care <i>Dearie Okwu (Nigeria)</i>
9	Mother-to-child transmission of HIV <i>Gurpreet Kaur (UK)</i>
10	Experimental treatment on a child <i>Giorgos Chalkiadakis (Greece), Silviya Aleksandrova-Yankulovska</i>
11	A case of minor euthanasia in Belgium <i>Ismail Turk (Belgium)</i>
12	Allocation of scarce resources <i>Mohsin Hussain (UK)</i>