

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue: Standards and Practices in a Diverse World: An Investigation into Shared Values

Guest Editors: Cheryl Macpherson and Ruth Macklin

Ethical principles and theories are held by some to be universal, and a common morality model, wherein some set of moral norms is shared by all, has been proposed. Others argue that cultural diversity calls for rejecting claims of universality and common morality. Cultural differences in moral beliefs, customs and practices create bioethical and policy dilemmas for health practitioners, researchers, policy makers, political and philanthropic leaders, and others.

It is therefore of interest to explore some of the specific values and practices associated with medicine and bioethics as these are held, taught and used in different cultures and nations. To further identify and examine commonalities and differences in moral perspectives within and between cultures, regions and nations, we invite papers addressing such perspectives and norms in medicine and bioethics. Issues of particular interest include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Physicians' obligations to patients and to research participants
- (b) Priorities and standards of patient care
- (c) Pain and palliation
- (d) Terminal illness, geriatrics, and end of life
- (e) Practices and standards of informed consent
- (f) Moral status of embryos and fetuses
- (g) Challenges to upholding patient confidentiality
- (h) Value of bioethical principles, theories, or methods in resolving dilemmas
- (i) Reproductive health and sexuality
- (j) Public health and related policy

We encourage submissions addressing such issues from the perspective of any culture, region or nation.

Submission deadline: 1 Feb 2009

Submissions should use footnotes conforming to the *Developing World Bioethics* style, as outlined on the journal's web page at www.blackwellpublishing.com/dwb. The word limit for papers is 5500 words, inclusive of footnotes and abstract.

Manuscripts should be submitted online by visiting <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/dwb> and following the online instructions. Alternatively, a link is available on the *Developing World Bioethics* web page. Please indicate in your covering letter that your submission is for the 'Standards and Practices in a Diverse World: An Investigation into Shared Values' special issue.

We welcome early discussion of proposals or abstracts (maximum 250 words). These can be sent by email to ccox@sgu.edu. Please indicate 'special issue' in the subject line.

Developing World Bioethics is now in the position to publish accepted manuscripts online, prior to hard-copy publication. This has been made possible by Wiley-Blackwell Publishing's OnlineEarly publication system, accessible through their online website. This advance-of-print system means that articles will be available to cite soon after acceptance, and prior to their publication in the hard-copy journal itself. The manuscript published online will be the final article and will be cited using a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) number. Following publication of the hard copy of the journal the DOI versions will be replaced by the manuscript as compiled in the hard copy of the journal (i.e. with volume, issue & page numbers). This system will reduce the time between manuscript acceptance and publication and will be of benefit to all associated with *Developing World Bioethics*.
