



News Release

Gary Pettett, M.D. joins staff at Center for Practical Bioethics

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Gary Pettett, M.D., a neonatologist at Children's Mercy Hospital, has joined the staff of the Center for Practical Bioethics as a program associate. Dr. Pettett brings more than twenty years of experience in research bioethics to the Center.

"The concept of the Center is unique," says Dr. Pettett. "With all the challenges in clinical research these days, it is imperative for professionals to find a neutral ground to discuss these issues. The Center for Practical Bioethics plays that role."

Dr. Pettett first became associated with the Center in the late 1990's when the Center began forming a consortium of institutional review boards. Dr. Pettett and Don Reynolds of the Center formed the Kansas City IRB Consortium to share best practices, produce common educational programs for all IRB members, and discuss IRB issues and concerns in a confidential manner.

With Dr. Pettett's assistance, the Center plans to reconvene the IRB Consortium in 2005.

Dr. Pettett will also support development and execution of a strategic initiative promoting informed policymaking at the state level and to increase science and ethics literacy across the United States.

Dr. Pettett will retain his positions as Chairman of the Institutional Review Board and Director of the Office of Research Integrity at Children's Mercy Hospital, along with his role as professor of pediatrics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine.

Founded in 1984, the Center for Practical Bioethics is an independent organization nationally recognized for its work in practical bioethics. More than a think tank, the Center puts theory into action to help people and organizations find real-world solutions to complex issues in health and healthcare.