

# Bioethics Bulletin

July 23, 2024

CENTER FOR PRACTICAL  
**BIOETHICS**

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## **30th Annual Rosemary Flanigan Lecture Will 24/7 AI Health Apps Make Us Healthier?**

Do you monitor your heart rate, blood oxygen or sleep on a smart watch or track your walks, bike rides and runs on a smart phone?

You are invited to a free lecture, “Leaving Patients to Their Own Devices: Will 24/7 Health Apps Make Us Healthier?” on **September 30, 7:00 PM at Saint Joseph Medical Center, 1000 Carondelet Drive, Kansas City, MO**, where Dr. Anita Ho will weigh pros and cons of AI in personal healthcare. You’ll leave with a better understanding of the ethics implications of direct-to-consumer devices and prepared to make more informed decisions about using AI healthcare apps and devices.

Dr. Ho is a bioethicist with unique combined academic training and experience in philosophy, clinical/organizational ethics, public and global health, and business. She is a Clinical Professor at University of British Columbia Centre for Applied Ethics and Associate Professor at University of California, San Francisco Bioethics Program. She is also the Vice President in Ethics for CommonSpirit Health in California, an elected fellow of The Hastings Center, and a Center for Practical Bioethics Board Member. Her recent book, *Live Like Nobody is Watching: Relational Autonomy in the Age of Artificial Intelligence Monitoring*, was published by Oxford Press in May 2023.

***Virtual or In-Person Attendance***

REGISTER NOW



## Who Needs Bioethics in Action?

Ethical dilemmas in healthcare arise from a range of situations, often concerning racial, ethnic, gender and geographic bias involving underserved, unrepresented, confused or houseless individuals.

Most clinicians and administrators receive the bare minimum of training in medical ethics, IT staff often none at all. This knowledge gap impacts patient outcomes, staff moral distress and retention, risk management, compliance and safety.

CPB can help your health organization in three ways:

- Providing **neutral recommendations** on ethical courses of action in response to cases and situations involving clinical uncertainty, moral conflict and organizational risk.
- Building systems to **responsibly develop and implement AI**.
- Developing **competencies within your organization** to respond to such needs and situations.

We call our services *Bioethics in Action*. For more information, contact our new Program Coordinator of Ethics Services, Cassandra Shaffer Johnson at [cshafferjohnson@practicalbioethics.org](mailto:cshafferjohnson@practicalbioethics.org).

OUR CLINICAL ETHICS SERVICES

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## How Artificial Intelligence Is Shaping the Future of Healthcare, Education and the Human Experience

While AI rapidly expands its influence across various domains, its impact on the field of medicine tantalizes with the prospect of greater precision, faster decision making – and perhaps less paperwork. However, the use of AI also raises concerns regarding bias, accountability, and the potential obsolescence of human doctors.

CPB Vice President of Ethics Services, Ryan Pferdehirt, D.Bioethics, HEC-C, who also serves as Adjunct Professor of Bioethics at Kansas City University, speaks to these issues in [“Generation Generated” \(page 24\) of the Summer 2024 issue of KCU Magazine.](#)

You can also catch Ryan on NBC News commenting at the 2:50 minute mark on the controversial pro-natalist movement, which claims to want to have more babies to fight falling birth rates. Watch the story:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/now/video/controversial-pronatalist-theory-promotes-having-more-babies-214534213566>



**Name Your DPOAH Agent  
Protect Your Family Before the Phone Rings**

One night in the winter of 1986, Monica Delles' mom came into her bedroom in the early morning hours crying. She sat on the bed and said she had just gotten off the phone with Monica's stepmother. Monica's father, a colonel in the U.S. Army, had suffered a stroke. Monica is the communications and website coordinator at the Center.

Monica's deeply religious stepmother had full legal authority to make decisions about his care. Thus, her father would remain hospitalized in what doctors called a persistent vegetative state for the next 12 years, while Monica and her brothers wished to request a DNR.

Monica urges everyone: Please do not let the end of your life be the end of your family. If you have not named someone as your agent in a Durable Power of Attorney for Healthcare (DPOAH) to speak for you if you can't speak for yourself, your family that you worked so hard to keep intact might go through an unnecessary hardship and permanent emotional breaks.

[READ MONICA'S STORY](#)



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