

Ethics and Professionalism in Medicine:

Cross-Curricular Integration of Ethical Basis for Medicine Students



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Definition

¿What is professionalism?



*What the Doctor does and "**how he does it**".*

Integrating abilities, attitudes and **ethical values** with which the professionals of medicine will demonstrate that they deserve the confidence that was given to them exclusively by the patient and the community.

The true professionalism in medicine will always put in first place the **well-being** of the patient and the **community** as principal objective.

Background



American Medical Colleges (AAMC) identifies four great *attributes* that doctors in the exercise of his profession must have:

altruism, knowledge, skills, fulfillment.

The fundamental principles of the Professionalism are:

Supremacy of the well-being of the patient

Autonomy of the patient

Social Justice

ABIM, ACP-ASIM, and EFM. Medical Professionalism in the New Millennium: A Physician Charter.
An Int Med 2002;136:243-246

ABIM, ACP-ASIM, and EFM. Medical Professionalism in the New Millennium: A Physician Charter.
Lancet. 2002;359:520-522

Educative activities



In order to acquire the **moral competencies related with ethical basis** we have implemented across the curriculum, amongst other activities, the educative Moral Dilemmas using the methodology created by **Dr. George Lind at the University of Konstanz**

George Lind moral dilemmas for Medical Students

Plenary sessions of 2 hours of work by phases.

Reflection and debates in relation to decision taken by third person in specific ethical dilemma.

One session in each semester of the career in relation to values on the longitudinal map.

Plenary groups: 80-120 students.

Implementation by a single group of professors enabled in the technique.

Conclusion of the dilemma by the moderator with support in the selected readings that can be consulted in the electronic page of ethics and professionalism.

Pursuit to individual reflection in writing.

Medical students feedback about moral dilemmas

“ It’s one of the best learning activities for us”

“ It’s an activity that should be applied each semester”

“ The time of discussion should be prolonged to let express the arguments of all the participants”

“ The lecture at the end of the discussion about some ethical, legal and medical issues has a great value for us”



5th year medical students, 2004

