



Medical Ethics Subcommittee

of the

Defense Health Board (DHB)



Overview

- **Subcommittee Membership**
- **By-Laws Task for the Subcommittee**
- **August Meeting Summary**
- **Agenda Topics for Future Meeting**
- **Subcommittee Membership - Present**



Subcommittee Membership

- ***Dr. Adil E. Shamoo, Chairman**
- ***Dr. Tenley Albright**
- ***Dr. William Blazek**
- ***Dr. Robert Certain**
- ***Dr. Suzanne Collins**
- ***Dr. Mary Anne Dumas**
- **CSM (ret) Lawrence Holland**
- **General (ret) Richard Myers**
- **Dr. Paul Offit**
- ***Ms. Kathie McCracken, Rep. of ASD(HA)**

***Present at August 25, 2009 meeting**



By-Laws Task for the Subcommittee

- J. The ***Medical Ethics Subcommittee shall function as a subcommittee of the Board with specific emphasis on medical ethics, the study of moral values as they apply to medicine and their practical application in clinical settings. The subcommittee shall serve as the primary referral group for Departmental questions related to medical ethics, and shall meet as necessary with the approval of the Board for the purpose of addressing requests from the Department and to discuss the latest developments in Departmental issues pertaining to medical ethics.***



August 25, 2009 Meeting (Organizational) Agenda & Briefers

- **Government Ethics, Travel, and DHB Operations**
- **Dr. George Annas, Department of Health Law, Bioethics and Human Rights, Boston University School of Public Health**
 - **Studying Suicide and Suicide Prevention in the U.S. Military: Medical Ethics Considerations**
- **Dr. Jonathan Moreno, David and Lyn Silfen University Professor of Medical Ethics and of History and Sociology of Science Professor of Philosophy (by courtesy) University of Pennsylvania**
 - **Neuroethics: Science and Policy for National Security**



Subcommittee's Deliberations

- What Topics?
- What Order?
- How to Address them?



Topics to be Explored by the Medical Ethics Subcommittee # 1

- **Treatment of enemy (to be addressed by Dr. Smith)**
 - Forced feeding of hunger strikers
 - Detainee treatment
 - Medical care for wounded enemy
- **Research and controlled trials (to be addressed by LTC Murray)**
 - Research and controlled trials in combat zones
 - Ethical issues surrounding informed consent and institutional review boards in the setting of combat
 - Research with human subjects
- **Ethics education for medical personnel within the MHS (CDR Feeks to identify point of contact to present at next Subcommittee meeting)**



Topics to be Explored by the Medical Ethics Subcommittee # 2

- **Ethics primer for Core Board members**
- **Military-specific issues**
 - **The use of unscreened blood transfusions on the battlefield**
- **Ethics of treatment of the wounded soldier**
 - **Military physicians' dual loyalties**
- **Research misconduct (accusation regarding Dr. Kuklo)**
- **Ethics of performance-enhancing drugs and technology**
- **Significant number of former high ranking active military officers who retire to become lobbyists and project managers for medical industry**
- **Hand and face transplants conducted at the AFIRM**



Present Subcommittee Membership

- ***Dr. Adil E. Shamoo, Chairman**
- **Dr. Robert Certain**
- **General (ret) Richard Myers**
- ***Ms. Kathie McCracken, Rep. of ASD(HA)**



Future Meetings

- In 2009: One more meeting?
- In 2010: Quarterly



Questions?