

OP23.1

Ethical dilemmas in general practice - FM - a workshop

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Introduction: Since its foundation in 2000, the “Wonca Working Party on ethical issues in General Practice” regularly organizes symposia and workshops on clinical situations of everyday practice involving ethical dilemmas.

Goals: It is the aim of the workshop to present recent situations involving ethical dilemmas as they occur regularly in General Practice / Family Medicine and to discuss their Background and possible consequences for the patient, his/her family, the physician and the society in general,.

Method: The workshop will start with short presentations by the participants of situations demonstrating ethical dilemmas. The participants then democratically select specific situations out of those presented, will split into small groups and will discuss the following issues using the examples selected:

1. The patient’s history and other factors, which resulted in the development of the particular ethical problem presented
2. The possible consequences of the situation for the patient and the physician
3. Possible solutions
4. What are the basic ethical principles demonstrated and challenged by this situation?

Expected outcome: At the end, the results of the small group discussions will be presented to the audience. It is the goal of this workshop to increase the awareness for the relevance of ethical standards and attitudes as applicable to future medical graduates and General Practitioners and for influences upon these standards.