

PHEN Communiqué: April 2010

Dear PHEN Member,

PHEN sends this *PHEN Communiqué* to members on a monthly basis, providing announcements and information on health ethics resources and events. If you do not wish to receive this monthly email bulletin, please reply to this email and write "unsubscribe" in the subject heading.

PHEN Announcements and Events

PHEN Annual General Meeting

PHEN's 2010 Annual General Meeting will take place in the fall. More details will be distributed in the coming months.

Other Announcements and Events

Alberta Health Act

The Government of Alberta has appointed a 9-member advisory panel to solicit public input and support Chair Fred Horne, MLA, in developing an Alberta Health Act. In its report last January, the Minister's Advisory Committee on Health recommended that a new law, the Alberta Health Act, be built around core principles and set the overall direction for Alberta's publicly-funded health system. The legislation will aim to ensure that Alberta legislation will respect the Canada Health Act; outline a patient charter that sets out roles and responsibilities for government, health professionals and users of the system; ensure the the public, health professionals and stakeholders are involved in on-going decision-making in a meaningful way; and help to support better decision-making using best available evidence. For more information, visit <http://tinyurl.com/39ahnoa>.

FIPPA Review

The Alberta legislature's all-party standing committee on health has been asked to review Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for possible amendments. Written submissions on suggested amendments to the law will be accepted until June 30. A final report is scheduled for November 30. For more info, please

visit <http://www.assembly.ab.ca/committees/health/index.html>

Alberta Committee of Citizens with Disabilities Survey

The Alberta Committee of Citizens with Disabilities (ACCD) has developed a survey to identify barriers faced by people with disabilities when visiting doctors' offices and accessing diagnostic procedures. By identifying these barriers, ACCD aims to work towards removing them by recommending changes so that people with disabilities can fully access necessary health and medical services. To access the survey, please

visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/B9XVPHS> For more info, please contact ACCD at 780.488.9088 or Melita@accd.net.

On the Lost Virtue of Hospitality, or, Whose Home is this Hospital?

Edmonton and via Telehealth: May 6, 2010, 12:05 - 12:55 pm

Room 4511, Children's Centre, Royal Alexandra Hospital

Speaker: Brendan Leier, Clinical Ethicist, University of Alberta & Stollery Children's Hospitals. Please call your local telehealth coordinator to arrange other locations.

Medical and Moral Dilemmas Onstage in Mourning Dove

Edmonton: May 13 - 22, 2010

Catalyst Theatre, 8529 Gateway Blvd

Based on an award-winning radio play and inspired by a true Canadian story, the play Mourning Dove explores the unspeakable dilemma faced by parents of a severely disabled girl who lives a life of pain and agony. Her father is not convinced her next operation will make a difference, but her mother believes it is their only choice. When the father takes matters - and his daughter's life - into his own hands, worlds are shattered and no one is prepared for the fallout. For more info, please

visit <http://www.tixonthesquare.ca/event/run/detail/177/>

Moving Palliative and End-of-Life Care Forward

Edmonton and online: May 17 - 21, 2010

Room TB-95, Tory Building, University of Alberta

A cross-Canada and international team of CIHR-funded researchers and health care providers invites you to attend - in person or through your computer - a series of presentations, workshops and discussion forums. The aim is to hear about your concerns, programs and services, and to share their completed research on palliative and end of life issues. All sessions are free to attend. For more information, please contact Donna Wilson at donna.wilson@ualberta.ca or 780.492.5574.

Ethics and Accreditation in Canadian Health Care Organizations

via Telehealth: May 20, 2010, 12:05 - 12:55 pm

Speaker: Julija Kelecevic, Bioethicist, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. Telehealth is booked at Room 4511, Children's Centre, Royal Alexandra Hospital, Edmonton. Please call your local telehealth coordinator to arrange other locations.

International Conference on Ethical Issues in Medical Tourism

Vancouver, BC: June 24 - 25, 2010

Simon Fraser University's Faculty of Health Sciences and Department of Geography is hosting this conference to help raise scholarly and public awareness and promote new research on ethical issues in medical tourism, to develop new partnerships among researchers interested in the ethics of medical tourism, and to facilitate scholarly exchange in a relaxed atmosphere. There is no fee to attend, however registration is required. For more info, please visit <http://www.sfu.ca/medicaltourism/registration.htm>

Health Ethics in the News

PHEN posts links to current news articles related to health ethics at <http://www.phen.ab.ca> - a few of the most recent articles are outlined below. Some of these sites require registration with the external website, but registration is free and only needs to be completed once.

Health reform a hot topic in bioethics circles

http://www.marketwatch.com/story/health-reform-a-hot-topic-for-bioethicists-2010-03-19?reflink=MW_news_stmp

US clinic sparks debate with UK human egg raffle

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2010/mar/23/us-clinic-sparks-debate-with-uk-human-egg-raffle/>

End of life: Who should decide to stop treatment?

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/story.html?id=2738063>

Study: People would donate kidneys for payment

http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2010-03-30-pay-for-organs_N.htm

Making your wishes known at the end of life

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/16/health/15chen.html?partner=rss&emc>

[≡rss](#)

TV doctors bring unethical behavior to prime time

<http://www.businessweek.com/lifestyle/content/healthday/637546.html>

Organ donors could get rewards

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2010/apr/20/organ-donors-cash-incentives-shortage>

Where'd you go with my DNA?

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/25/weekinreview/25harmon.html>

Maternal health and paternalism

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/news/Maternal+health+paternalism/2968960/story.html>

Blogging the end of a life

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/HEALTH/04/27/blog.terminal.illness/index.html>
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The PHEN Communiqué is a publication distributed to members. PHEN members are encouraged to forward the Communiqué to their colleagues. If you have a health ethics event or announcement to publicise, please email it to middleton@phen.ab.ca for inclusion in an upcoming issue of PHEN Communiqué.