

National Student Conference 2019

'Medical Ethics in a Technologically Advanc-

On the 2nd February 2019 the IME Student Council hosted their second National Student Conference at Northwick Park Hospital in London. The day was a roaring success, conferring an intriguing insight into the ethical conundrums faced by a medical world which is increasingly shaped by technological advances.

A huge thank you to everyone involved in the organisation and running of the event. A special well done goes to Lesley Tinkler and Katie McComb, members of the IME Student Council who undertook the responsibility of organising this years' event and pulled it off with such great success!



Thank you to Medical Students Lesley and Katie for organising a great conference this year.

The day began with a thought-provoking talk from this years' keynote speaker, Dr Andrew Papanikitas, on the ethics of electronic patient records. The talk sparked fierce debate over the controversial question of who owns our confidential medical data, and really warmed up our audience on a chilly February morning!

Following our keynote lecture – and a short coffee break with fantastic networking – we were treated to two intriguing talks delivered by medical students who have been conducting their own ethics research projects with the support of IME bursaries. It was exciting to hear how an upcoming generation of medics are engaging in the ethical minefield created by this modern technological era of healthcare.



During lunch attendees enjoyed not only an extensive sandwich spread but were also treated to a range of poster presentations by students from medical schools across the country.

The showcased work was of an exceptionally high standard, and all presenters were thoroughly engaging and insightful.

Having the posters displayed over lunch definitely achieved the desired effect as the room was brimming with passionate and profound debate!

The posters were not merely presented for intrigue though, all were considered by both a panel of judges and conference attendees to select the best one. All the work was fantastic, but a big congratulations is extended to the 2 winners of the day!

The afternoon comprised of rotations through small group workshops, which were all highly engaging and well received by everyone. Each workshop identified an area of medicine which has challenging ethical implications as a result of modern advancing technology, including -

- ⇒ **Challenges of medical tourism and travel medicine to medical ethics – including the ethical challenges of medical electives on developing countries**
- ⇒ **How can increasing medical technology impact ‘best interest’ cases in end of life care?**
- ⇒ **The challenges of increasing reproductive technologies on medical ethics**



All our workshop presenters inspired interactive and enthusiastic discussion, guiding us somewhat toward grasping the reality of these issues.

Thank you to all our speakers and workshop presenters, including Professor Joyce Harper and Dr Carwyn Rhys Hooper (pictured here).



Following another afternoon networking session, unfortunately the day had come to a close. Dr Wing May Kong, Chair of the IME, reflected on the success of the event in her closing comments. Everyone agreed that we had had an insightful and thought-provoking day, filled with passionate and intriguing discussion. Feedback from the event has been immensely positive, and the IME Student Council are extremely proud to have hosted such a brilliant conference yet again!



Look out for return of the IME Student Conference in 2020, which promises to follow the high standards of this year and is sure to be another great event!

