



IME National Student Debate Competition – student information

The event will take place on Saturday 17th March 2018

The location will be determined after we know which teams are through to the final.

Purpose of the debates

- a) Promote engagement on a national level with medical ethics
- b) Foster a community of interest in medical ethics
- c) To provide new learning opportunities
- d) To allow students to enjoy medical ethics and have fun

Recruiting students

Students are responsible for organising their own debate teams. It is likely that you will have an ethics lead in your School but they may not have the time to be involved. Putting the onus on students to organise their teams means that you can still enter the national competition even if your ethics lead is unable to be involved.

New! In previous years, the competition has been confined to medical students. This year, you have the option to include students of allied healthcare professions in your team if you wish, such as nurses or physician associates, but at least half of the team members must be medical students. Given the purpose of the debates, you should endeavour to include students who are interested in medical ethics rather than simply debating. This event is part of the IME's endeavour to engage students in medical ethics and foster a community of interest. While many students are competitive and want to win, the stress should be on taking part, meeting like-minded students, learning and enjoyment. *It is the taking part that matters.*

Entering the competition

There will be a limit of eight teams that can participate in the event, **and only one team per Medical School**. As there may be more than eight teams interested in taking part, there will be a video-audition process on the basis of which the final eight will be selected.

All teams wishing to compete are required to upload a video of themselves undertaking a 10 minute debate which will then be judged by a panel to select the eight finalists.

Teams participating in the national final can have up to six members. But when preparing the video, only four people take part: two on each side of the debate.

The topic for the video audition is:

Pre-natal and pre-conception genetic screening will lead to a better society.

Each side should spend five minutes presenting their side of the debate. Format is as follows:

First speaker *For* the motion: 2 minutes

First speaker *Against* the motion: 2 minutes

Second speaker *For* the motion: 2 minutes

Second speaker *Against* the motion: 2 minutes

For the motion (summing up): 1 minute

Against the motion (summing up): 1 minute

*The person summing up can be either of the two speakers.

Deadline for videos to be uploaded is 11th December 2017

Please upload to YouTube. You will need to create a channel if you don't already have one.

Upload your video as 'Unlisted' which is a drop down option in the centre of the screen at the start of the upload process on <https://www.youtube.com/upload>

This will ensure that the video won't be findable by the general public even if they know the name of it.

Then email the URL of your video to Phil Greenwood of the IME -

contact@instituteofmedicalethics.org

If you have any problems uploading your video please also contact Phil Greenwood.

When emailing the URL of your video, please **also** send a list of the students taking part and indicate whether they are medical students or students of an allied healthcare profession.

Selection of the final eight teams will be made by 15th January 2018

Teams will then be informed of the debate topics for the national final, and which side of the debates they have been allocated.

When teams are notified that they have been selected for the final, they must make a firm commitment to attend, and indicate whether the team is all medical students or includes some students of allied healthcare professions.

Competing in the final

There will be a prize of £50 per member of the team that wins the final.

There will be two leagues each comprising four teams.

Each team will play the three other teams in their league. The winner of each league will progress to the final round.

This means each team will need to prepare **four** debates, although only the two teams that reach the final round will have the opportunity to debate their final topic.

Each debate will take 30 minutes broken down as follows:

Speaker 1 *FOR* the motion: 5 Minutes

Speaker 1 *AGAINST* the motion: 5 Minutes

Speaker 2 *FOR* the motion, response to opponents: 3 Minutes

Speaker 2 *AGAINST* the motion, response to opponents: 3 Minutes

Final speaker *FOR* the motion respond & summarise 2 Minutes

Final speaker *AGAINST* the motion respond & summarise 2 Minutes

*Final speaker can be either of the two speakers on a team

Judging Maximum 10 Minutes

Total Time 30 Minutes

Regulations

- Each Medical School can comprise a team of up to **six** students (one team only per School).
- Teams may include students of allied healthcare professions but at least half of the members must be medical students.
- Intercalating students may compete for their “home” or intercalation university.
- Expenses will be paid for up to six members per team and their ethics lead. The IME office will book travel for the participating teams in order to keep the costs low.
- No technology use such as overheads, Powerpoint or internet connection.
- Use of prompts on paper or tablets is permitted.

Queries should be addressed to Phil Greenwood (CEO of the IME):

contact@instituteofmedicalethics.org