26 February – 1 March, 2013, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Advanced European Bioethics Course

SUFFERING, DEATH AND PALLIATIVE CARE

Ethical Issues of Medically Assisted Death and Palliative Care in a Pluralistic World

Keynote Lecture: ‘Activity and passivity, autonomy and connectedness in palliative care ethics’, Marc Desmet SJ, MD
Organized by
IQ healthcare, Section HEALTHCARE ETHICS, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Advanced European Bioethics Course SUFFERING, DEATH AND PALLIATIVE CARE

SPEAKERS

Keynote lecture: ‘Activity and passivity, autonomy and connectedness in palliative care ethics’, Marc Desmet SJ, MD,

Dr. Marc Desmet is a Jesuit priest and a medical doctor at the Jessa Hospital, Hasselt, Belgium since 1993. He is the medical responsible for the ward and support team of the Palliative Care Unit. Besides this he publishes on the crossroads of medicine, ethics and spirituality and he gives numerous lectures and workshops in Belgium and the Netherlands. He teaches at the Centre Sèvres in Paris and has given lectures in Poland, the Ukraine, Lebanon and Québec

Staff:
Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre,
IQ healthcare, Section Healthcare Ethic:

Evert van Leeuwen PhD
Chair of the section, professor of medical ethics

Wim Dekkers MD, PhD
Associate professor philosophy of medicine

Martien Pijnenburg PhD
Assistant professor medical ethics

Gerrit Kimsma MD, MPH
General practitioner and philosopher

Tilburg University, Tilburg, Faculty of Humanities, Department of Religious Studies and Theology.

Gert Olthuis PhD
Associate professor ethics of care

Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Department of Anesthesiology:

Jeroen Hasselaar PhD
Assistant Professor in Palliative Care

University for Humanistics, Utrecht.

Carlo Leget PhD
Professor of ethics of care and spiritual counselling; endowed professor in ethical and spiritual issues in palliative care, established by the Association of High Care Hospices in the Netherlands.

Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Department of Palliative Care:

Kris Vissers MD, PhD
Professor in Pain and Palliative care

Academic Medical Centre Amsterdam and the University of Amsterdam:

Dick Willems MD, PhD
Professor of medical ethics

Radboud University Nijmegen, Faculty of Religious Studies, Centre for Thanatology

Thomas Quartier PhD
Assistant Professor

Organized by
IQ healthcare, Section HEALTHCARE ETHICS, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
INTRODUCTION

Course Profile and Objectives

New developments in health care strengthen a potential of medical utopia, the promise of a better life for everyone. This process influences the way societies and individuals deal with the end of life and with questions regarding the meaning of suffering and death. These questions require thorough conceptual interpretation as well as ethical reflection. In the international discussion, an important topic is whether medically hastening death is a proper means to preserve human dignity and quality of life. An important alternative is palliative care, defined by the WHO as the active total care of patients whose disease is not responsive to curative treatment. The question if adequate palliative care helps prevent the call for euthanasia needs to be carefully investigated. Attitudes towards death and dying, and the ethical aspects of continuing or foregoing medical treatment, and of medically assisted death receive considerable attention. In addition, the dimensions of spirituality, rituals and intercultural diversity are covered.

Objective of the course is to educate the participants on two main aspects: ethical questions of palliative care and medically assisted death, and philosophical, theological and medical reflections on the concepts of death and suffering.

Course Subjects and Methods

The course consists of a series of lectures, discussions, parallel sessions and audiovisual materials centered around a variety of topics: autonomy and dependence; palliative sedation and euthanasia; spirituality and palliative care; quality of life and a good death; scientific research in palliative care; moral deliberation.

The parallel sessions are devoted to in-depth small group discussions and moral deliberation on different real life cases and particular contemporary issues in the area of end-of-life decisions. Each group will consist of ten to fifteen participants, led by a faculty member. The course language is English. The diversity among both faculty and participants stimulates fruitful exchange of ideas and enhances understanding of others’ professional and cultural perspectives on suffering, death and palliative care.

Organized by

IQ healthcare, Section HEALTHCARE ETHICS, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
PARTICIPANTS

The course is of interest to participants from diverse professional backgrounds, such as nursing, medicine, health care administration, ethics, philosophy, theology and pastoral care, and PhD students undertaking courses of study in these areas.

All participants will receive a syllabus with introductory readings prior to the course. Since the program schedule is strict, participants are expressly advised to prepare by studying these materials in advance. Lecturers will assume acquaintance with these basic readings.

At the conclusion of the course, all participants will receive a certificate. Participants are reminded that they may request continuing education credit hours through their professional association. Accreditation from the KNMG (Dutch Medical Association) and the SKGV (Dutch register for Chaplains) will be applied for. Please contact the program coordinators for further details (see information).

ERASMUS MUNDUS

This course is part of the post initial Erasmus Mundus Master of Bioethics Program, a one-year master program for a group of international students from European and non-European countries. This program is organized by the Universities of Leuven (Belgium), Nijmegen (Netherlands) and Padova (Italy). Because of this combination, participants of the course Suffering, Death and Palliative Care will be part of a divers, international audience, which adds to the discussions in a unique way.

SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE FOR QUALITY OF HEALTHCARE

IQ healthcare is an international centre of excellence for research, education and support in the field of quality, safety and innovation in healthcare. IQ healthcare contributes to an effective, safe, patient-centered and ethically sound patient care. For more information: [www.Iqhealthcare.nl](http://www.Iqhealthcare.nl).

The section of Healthcare ethics is in charge of the ethics teaching in the faculties of medicine, dentistry and biomedical sciences at the Radboud University Nijmegen, facilitates the ethical case deliberations on the ward and is involved in several committees in the Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre. Besides these activities the section of Healthcare ethics also organizes the following post-academic teaching programmes: Human Genomics and Medical Technology, the 'Ethics of dementia care’ lecture series, the recently awarded Dutch Postgraduate professional training course ‘Ethics in Health Care’ and ‘Ethics in a General Practice’, and Prudentia-conferences.

Research lines focus on Ethics of palliative care, Ethics in and ethics of care institutions, Ethics of innovation and technology and Ethics of medical decision making.

Organized by

IQ healthcare, Section HEALTHCARE ETHICS, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
PROGRAM

Please note: the program may be subject to change

Tuesday, February 26th, 2013

14:30 - 15:30  Registration
15:30 - 16:00  Welcome and Introduction to the course, Martien Pijnenburg
16:00 - 17:00  Introduction to palliative care, Kris Vissers
17:00-17:30  Refreshments
17:30 - 18:30  Keynote lecture: Marc Desmet
18:30 - 19:00  Discussion
19:00 -  Reception

Wednesday, February 27th, 2013

09:00 - 10:00  Autonomy and Dependence, Gert Olthuis
10:00 - 10:15  Refreshments
10:15 - 11:30  Parallel session: Autonomy and beneficence in terminal illness
11:30 - 11:45  Refreshments
11:45 - 12:45  Suffering, Evert van Leeuwen
12:45 - 14:00  Lunch
14:00 - 15:15  Scientific research in palliative care: ethical issues, Dick Willems
15:15 - 15:30  Refreshments
15:30 - 17:15  Film: ‘Wit’
17:15 - 18:00  Reflections on the film
18:00 - 19:00  Reception
19:00 -  Dinner

Organized by
IQ healthcare, Section HEALTHCARE ETHICS, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Thursday, February 28th, 2013

09:00 - 10:00  Euthanasia: arguments pro and contra, Martien Pijnenburg
10:00 - 10:15  Refreshments
10:15 - 11:15  Film: 'Death on Request'
11:15 - 12:00  Reflections on the film
12:00 - 12:15  Refreshments
12:15 - 13:15  Palliative sedation, Jeroen Hasselaar
13:15 - 14:00  Lunch
14:00 - 15:15  Suffering and medical friendship, Gerrit Kimsma
15:15 - 15:30  Refreshments
15:30 - 16:00  Presentation of the Nijmegen Method of Ethical Deliberation, Norbert Steinkamp
16:00 - 17:00  Parallel sessions: case discussion using the Nijmegen method of ethical deliberation
17:00 - 17:30  Plenary session

Organized by
IQ healthcare, Section HEALTHCARE ETHICS, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen,
The Netherlands
PROGRAM

Please note: the program may be subject to change

Friday, March 1st, 2013

09:00 - 10:00  Spirituality and palliative care, Carlo Leget
10:00 - 10:15  Refreshments
10:15 - 11:15  Quality of life and a good death in palliative care, Wim Dekkers
11:15 - 11:30  Refreshments
11:30 - 12:30  Case discussion: in search of a good death
12:30 - 13:00  Plenary session
13:00 - 14:00  Lunch
14:00 - 14:30  Introduction to rituals regarding death and suffering, Thomas Quartier
14:30 - 16:00  Interactive plenary session death, spirituality and rituals
16:00 - 16:30  Evaluation of the course
16:30 - 18:00  Farewell drinks

Organized by
IQ healthcare, Section HEALTHCARE ETHICS, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen,
The Netherlands
COURSE FEES and PAYMENTS

The course fee will be € (Euro) 690 for early registration before January 1st 2013, € (Euro) 790 for registration from December 31st onwards. This price includes tuition and course materials, as well as refreshments, three lunches and a dinner. Fees are non-refundable if applicants cancel after January 31, 2013.

If notification of cancellation has been received after January 14, 2013 but prior to or on January 31, 2013 all fees, except for a banking and administrative fee of € 91, will be reimbursed.

Detailed information on registration can be found at our website: [www.masterbioethics.org](http://www.masterbioethics.org) under intensive courses. After registration you will be contacted with further information on payment.

INFORMATION

For more information and registration please consult our website: [www.masterbioethics.org](http://www.masterbioethics.org) under intensive courses or contact: Martien Pijnenburg PhD, or Simone Naber. Follow us on twitter: @palcarecourse for all the latest news.

E-mail: s.naber@iq.umcn.nl

114 IQ healthcare, Section Healthcare ethics
Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre
PO Box 9101, 6500 HB Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Tel.: [31] (0)24-361 33 59 Fax: [31] (0)24-354 02 54