BIOMEDICAL ETHICS
Senior Elective

Division of Medical Humanities
Tentative Syllabus
Spring, 1986
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Little Rock, AR 72205

Required Texts:
Tom L. Beauchamp and Lawrence B. McCullough, Medical Ethics: The
 Moral Responsibilities of Physicians, (Englewood Cliffs, NJ:
Carol Levine and Robert M. Veatch, Cases in Bioethics,
 (Hastings-on-Hudson, NY: The Hastings Center, 1984.)

1/9 INTRODUCTION

1/21 THE PHYSICIAN PATIENT RELATIONSHIP
Excerpts from The Physician's Covenant: Images of the Healer
Cases in Bioethics p. 26
The 'Student Doctor' and a Wary Patient
Hippocratic Oath, AMA Principles

1/28 MORAL REASONING IN MEDICINE
Medical Ethics pp. 8-21
Film: Whose Life Is It, Anyway?

2/4 THE PRINCIPLE OF BENEFICENCE
Medical Ethics pp. 22-41
Cases in Bioethics pp. 58, 14
Nurturing a Defective Newborn
Sterilizing the Retarded Child
Transfusion for a Jehovah's Witness (Handout)

2/11 THE PRINCIPLE OF AUTONOMY
Medical Ethics pp. 42-51
Cases in Bioethics pp. 53, 71
A Demand to Die
If I have AIDS, Then Let Me Die Now
Film: Dax's Case

2/18 INFORMED CONSENT (First Case-Analysis Due)
Medical Ethics pp. 53-78
Arkansas Law (Michael Mitchell and Anne Owings Wilson, guests)
2/25 INFORMED CONSENT
"Psychological Issues in Informed Consent," William C. Thompson in Making Health Care Decisions vol. 3, President's Commission
Excerpts from Survey of Physicians and the Public on Informed Consent and Decisionmaking by Lou Harris and Associates in Making Health Care Decisions vol. 2, President's Commission
Cases in Bioethics pp. 81, 86
The Last Patient in a Drug Trial
Can a Subject Consent to a 'Ulysses Contract'?

3/4 COMPETENCE AND PATERNALISM
Medical Ethics pp. 105-132
Childress, "What is Paternalism?" (handout)
Medical Ethics pp. 82-104 (optional)
Case handout: "Use of Placebos in Drug Withdrawal"
Cases in Bioethics pp. 71, 39
If I Have AIDS, Then Let Me Die Now
Ain't Nobody Gonna Cut on My Head

3/11 CONCEPTUAL DISTINCTIONS IN DEATH AND DYING
President's Commission Report: Deciding to Forego Life-Sustaining Treatment pp. 60-90.

3/18 DECISIONMAKING: COMPETENT AND PREVIOUSLY COMPETENT PATIENTS
President's Commission Report pp. 125-147
Steinbrook and Lo, "Decision Making for Incompetent Patients by Designated Proxy" NEJM (handout)
Bartling vs. Glendale Adventist Medical Center (handout)
Arkansas Death with Dignity Statute
Arkansas Durable Power of Attorney
Samples of living wills
California Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care

3/25 DECISIONMAKING: INCOMPETENT PATIENTS (Second Case-Analysis Due)
Lo and Dornbrand, "Guiding the Hand that Feeds," NEJM 311(6) 1984:402
"Quinlan Lawyer Files Artificial Feeding Suit" AMN
UAMS Policy on Care of Hopeless/Moribund Patients
"Final 'Baby Doe' Regs," LR Digest April 26, 1985
Post and Cranford "Hospital Ethics Committees: Administrative Aspects," JAMA 253(18) 1985:2687

4/1 NO CLASS
4/8 HEALTH ECONOMICS (guest Linda Bilheimer, Ph.D.)
Excerpt from Summing Up President's Commission pp. 29-30
Fried, "Equality and Rights in Medical Care," in Beachamp and Walters,
eds. Contemporary Issues in Bioethics (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth
Publishing Co., 1982)
Thurrow, "Learning to Say 'No','" NEJM 311(24):1569
Levinsky, "The Doctor's Master," NEJM 311(24):1573
Dolenc and Dougherty, "DRGs: The Counterrevolution in Financing Health
Smith, "Malpractice: A New Zealand Solution to an American Crisis?"
Cases in Bioethics p. 98
The Doctor, the Patient, and the DRG
The HMO Physician's Duty to Cut Costs (handout)

4/15 ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION
Feinberg, "The Mistreatment of Dead bodies" and
May, "Religious Justification for Donating Body Parts," Hastings
Center Report 15(1)
Caplan, "Organ Transplants: The Cost of Success," HCR 13(6)
Annas, "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Organ Sales," HCR
14(1)
"Guidelines for the Determination of Death," JAMA 246(19) Nov. 13,
1981.
Cases in Bioethics p. 83
Mrs. X and the Bone Marrow Transplant

4/22 AIDS
Leishman, "A Crisis in Public Health," Atlantic Monthly, October,
1985.
Steinbrook, Lo, et al, "Ethical Dilemmas In Caring for Patients With
the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome," Annals of Internal
CDC, "The Case Definition of AIDS Used by CDC for National Reporting,"
August 1, 1985.

4/29 PSYCHIATRIC MEDICINE (Third Case-Analysis Due)
Szasz, "The Myth of Mental Illness," in Beachamp and Walters (eds.),
Szasz, "Involuntary Mental Hospitalization: A Crime Against Humanity,"
in Beachamp and Walters (eds.), Contemporary Issues In Bioethics,
Chodoff, "The Case for Involuntary Hospitalization of the Mentally
Ill," in Beachamp and Walters (eds.) Contemporary Issues In
California Supreme Court, Tarasoff V. Regents of the University of California, in Beauchamp and Walters (eds.), *Contemporary Issues In Bioethics*, 2nd ed., Wadsworth, 1982.