Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery



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Clinical Ethics are a routine part of our daily practices as Otolaryngologists

- Truth-telling
- Privacy and Confidentiality
- Informed consent
- Billing fidelity
- Patient Autonomy and care disagreements
- Decisional capacity/incapacity
- Surrogate decision-making
- End-of-life care or DNR
- Limited Resources and Health Care Disparities
- Other



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Ethics Introduction

- Ethics (from Greek ethos meaning character or custom)
 - Term based in moral philosophy
 - Various ways of understanding and examining the moral life
 - Concerned with "right and wrong" & "good and bad"
 - Theoretical or Practical/Applied
- Bioethics or Biomedical Ethics
 - "Life-ethics" or ethics related to biology and medicine
 - Draws upon many disciplines, including: moral philosophy, cognitive psychology, communication, biology, clinical medicine and health law
 - Includes clinical, research, and theoretical
- Clinical Medical Ethics
 - Practical/Applied Ethics
 - A structured approach to ethical questions and decisions encountered in clinical medicine
 - A daily part of our lives as clinicians



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Biomedical Ethics Principles and Topics we will touch on today

- Four core principles of Biomedical Ethics
 - -Beneficence
 - Nonmaleficence
 - Respect for Autonomy
 - -Justice
- Common topics in Clinical Ethics
 - Decisional capacity/incapacity
 - Surrogate decision making



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Case Presentations and Discussion

Review of Related Principles and Topics