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## **Abstract Book for the International Conference on Ethics and Professionalism (ICEP)**

**1<sup>st</sup> December**

**9.00-10.00: Opening Session**

**1) Welcoming Words**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Latifah Amin  
ICEP Chairperson, Centre for General Studies,  
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.

**2) Welcoming Words**

Prof. Dr. Darryl Macer  
ICEP Joint Chairperson, Regional Adviser, the  
Regional Unit for Social and Human Sciences in Asia  
and the Pacific (RUSHSAP), UNESCO Bangkok.

**3) Opening Words by the Honourable Vice  
Chancellor, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia**

Tan Sri Prof. Dato' Dr. Sharifah Hapsah Syed Hasan  
Shahabudin

*10.00-10.30: Morning Tea Break*

## **Sustainable Science, Technology & Society**

**1– 2 December 2010**

Organised by the Centre for General  
Studies of Universiti Kebangsaan  
Malaysia (UKM), and the Regional Unit  
for Social and Human Sciences in Asia  
and the Pacific (RUSHSAP), UNESCO  
Bangkok.

Venue: Equatorial Hotel,  
Bangi-Putrajaya Malaysia

**PS 1 (T 2-7): Relationship of Individual Characteristics with Patient Views of Privacy Observance by Health Care Emergency Team**

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**Introduction.** In addition to treatment and patient care, privacy is one of the most major concepts in ethical health care. Privacy is to sense the identity, value and personal dignity, independence and having a private space. Respect privacy in emergency is particularly important due to its specific conditions and environment. Personal characteristics are effective in the estimate of respecting privacy. **Objective.** This study has paid to assessing relationship of Personal characteristics with the patients' view of privacy observance. **Method.** This study done in Imam Hospital emergency departments affiliated to Tehran University of Medical Sciences in Iran. Samples were patients hospitalized at least 24 hours. Data collection questionnaire includes two parts: personal characteristics and privacy items. Dimensions of Privacy including physical, confidentiality and psychosocial privacy were assessed. **Results.** The results showed that only about one-fifth of patients estimated to respect their privacy at a good level. Also it revealed that among the personal characteristics, there is a significant correlation between, age, sex, marital status, duration of hospitalization, room type, and cause of admission and religion with sense of respect privacy. **Conclusion.** Considering this fact that only a small number of patients estimated observance of privacy levels at good level, and its correlation with some of personal characteristics, precise planning for training and implementation of privacy respecting is mandatory.

**Keywords:** Privacy, emergency, personal characteristics, Iran

**PS 1 (T 2-8): Patient Advocacy Role and Its Determinants among Tehran University Hospitals' Nurses**

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**Aim:** To recognize the extent of patient advocacy role among nurses who work in TUMS affiliated hospital. **Method:** cross-sectional descriptive study was used and Systematic random sampling was

utilized for selecting samples from study population (all nurses who work in TUMS affiliated hospitals) and as a result 328 eligible nurses were recruited for the study. Participants received information about the aims of the study and then informed consent was taken. Data was gathered through patient advocacy questionnaire. Data was analyzed by descriptive and inferential statistics in SPSS software. **Findings:** The finding indicates that 41.8% nurses who participated in this study were 31-40 years old, 87.8% female, 57.4% married, and 94.5% of them have baccalaureate degree. Only 33.7% nurses attended are continuing their education programs concerning patient advocacy. The majority of nurses (83.5%) declared her/his obligation to patient advocacy is of high level, while just 42.5% of them believed that their ability of patient advocacy was high. As well 50.3% nurses face problems during patient advocacy activities. Among the problems were conflicts with colleagues, conflict with superiors, problems taking oral admonition, taking written admonition, change of work shift or ward respectively. According to the finding, 32.4 % nurses accomplished patient advocacy well and 67.0 % succeeded moderately. The mean of patient advocacy practices scores show significant relationship between gender, position, recognize patient and relation with patient commitment to patient advocacy and the ability of patient advocacy ( $p < 0.001$ ), working in another hospital ( $p = 0.048$ ), and experiencing conflict with superior ( $p = 0.047$ ). **Conclusion:** This findings show that nurses in TUMS affiliated hospitals carried out this role in an acceptable level and they adopt it as their professional role. Congruently with literature reviews, the finding shows that factors like formal power (position), good patient's recognition, having good relationship with patients facilitate patient advocacy. On the other hand, working in another hospital and confronting with problems during patient advocate act as barriers.

**Keywords:** Patient advocacy, hospital nurses, Iran

**PS 1 (T 2-9): Attitudes towards Euthanasia among Physicians and Patients: A Cross Sectional Survey from Malaysia**

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**Introduction:** The term euthanasia or Mercy killing is in essence the termination of life of a terminally ill patient at his request or in his interest. Due to increase in ageing population with extremely limited physical and mental capacities, the issue is being discussed in a number of jurisdictions in favour of its legalization. However there is intense public debate and controversy among its proponents and

opponents. The controversy regarding its practice is essentially a controversy about ethics and morality. Virtually all of the research in this field has been with Western, largely Christian, populations. There is a pressing need for more cross-cultural, international collaborative studies on the subject. **Aim of the study:** The present ongoing study has some promise since it samples a population of patients and physicians who are multi-racial and multi-faith. We want to ascertain the prevalent beliefs and views among patients and physicians in Malaysia. Concomitantly we want to ascertain the frequency of requests for assistance in active euthanasia. **Methods:** Trained research assistant administered questionnaire to a convenience sample of consenting patients and physicians. The influence of a number of independent variables such as cultural and religious beliefs, age and gender will also be investigated, as it is believed that they have a great influence on most individuals' attitudes towards euthanasia. A cross-cultural perspective and attitude towards euthanasia could enrich our understanding and thus provide insights for societal stability. The interim results of our **findings:** The majority of patients were male (62.9%), Malay Muslims (75.4%) and had primary (32.5%) or secondary (48.6%) education. Nearly all patients and doctors believed in the existence of God and life after death. Only a quarter of physicians agreed with euthanasia, while among patients only 6.4% agreed with euthanasia and 92% had a hope of cure. The full paper along with final results will be published once the study is complete.

**Keywords:** Euthanasia, mercy killing, attitudes, morality, race, religious beliefs

**PS 1 (T 2-10): The Responsibility of Medical Research Ethics Committee in Clinical Research in Malaysia.**

Yuhanif Yusof, Zaki Morad Mohamed Zaher, & Anisah Che Ngah

**Theme (T) 3: Ethics and Professionalism at the Workplace**

**Chairs:** Prof. Dr. Abu Daud Silong, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Faridah Ibrahim

**PS 1 (T 3-1): Ethics and Professionalism in Teaching.**

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The purpose of the study is to understand and analyse the importance of teaching as the noblest profession with ethical values and what characteristics are needed to be a professional teacher. Interviews with teachers help to get details for the study.

A professional teacher should have the necessary basic qualification. Although competence is essential to a teacher, it is only useful if the educator is able to perform. A professional is able to dwell on how to relate subject +6 herself is a reflection on one's classroom, school, community, and educational system. The teacher should be sensitive to the demographics of the class as well as socio-economic differences. Teachers have greater ethical concerns than many other professionals.

While teachers are not expected to treat all situations like they would in a classroom, they should be aware that their actions are noticed by the community and it would reflect on their profession. As part of a professional image, teachers should be good role models to students. Teachers should be good at administration. The professionals should have the ability to teach, organize and motivate. They can transform vision into reality

An educator who has a high standard of performance is reliable and dedicated. The manner in which an educator carries himself or herself is a reflection of one's ability to initiate and maintain quality communication with all the parties involved in education: Students, fellow teachers, school board, administration, and parents.

Teachers need to be flexible in their outlook and approach. Professionalism grows within a teacher in slow degrees. Appropriate teacher training capsules need to be developed to meet the needs of teachers aiming to achieve quality in education which is its mainstay. Teachers are the shapers of future citizens and rulers of a nation. Professionalism in teaching is possible if ethics related to teaching is followed.

**Keywords:** Teaching, professionalism, ethics, model teacher, uses & values.

**PS 1 (T 3-2): Applying the Concept of Trust in Managing Breach of Ethics and Integrity in Malaysia: Constructive Trust as the Best Possible Remedy.**

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Ethics and integrity have always been associated with individual personality and honesty and these wide concepts are applicable in all kinds of situation. Trust, on the other hand, is also closely related to integrity. In order for trust to be established, a trustee needs to be appointed, and the highest form of integrity is expected from a trustee whereby the property that he is holding, as a legal owner, is not his but it belongs to a beneficiary or beneficiaries. Similarly, in cases involving charitable trust, trustees need to be aware that trust funds in most cases donated by the public are well managed. In principle, if it is used for other purposes set by such trust; this will eventually lead to breach of trust. Conversely in a case where it does not involve any direct creation of