Ethics and guidelines, ethics in guidelines?

EiR-A project

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New dimension

• Career of Noks Nauta
  • Medicine, 1975
  • Psychology, 1999
  • Ethics: new dimension
  • Could not work without it any more
WHY ETHICS?
• Difficult, vague, subjective
• Other things more important?

WHY NOT?
• Patient is most important
• Quality of care, improvements, innovations
• Professionality, reflection on our work
‘Other arguments’ in CPGs

- Patients perspectives
  - Social
  - Cultural
- Society’s perspective
  - Economical
  - Political
- Legal aspects
- Collaboration, division of responsibilities
Work and health

- Functioning versus disease/complaints
- Collaboration
- Professional roles
- Legal issues for insurance physicians
- Effects of therapy on capacity for work
Fundamental principles

• Doing well + causing no harm
• Respect for autonomy
• Justice
• Carefulness, attention
• Trust
• Honesty
• Collaboration
Moral deliberation

- Facts
- Choices
- Values per alternative, from different perspectives
- Weighting of values
- Choice with argumentation

- Making values explicit
- Trained supervisor
Value-based chapters in guidelines

• For guidelines
  – Depression
  – Breast cancer

• Testing by professionals and patients
Ethics chapter Depression

Content

• Introduction, questions, evidence
• Elements of sensitive situations
  – Vision of client/ patient
  – Interdisciplinary collaboration
  – Diagnostics
  – Treatment
  – Assessment of functioning
  – Professional’s self reflection
  – Context client/ patient
• Recommendation for moral deliberation
Ethics chapter breastcancer

Content (6 of the 10 topics)

• Co-operation of medical professionals
• Patients’ participation in treatment and rehabilitation
• Fatigue: assessment and support
• Cases with bad or moderate prognosis
• Negative feelings about work
• Intercultural and SES aspects
Results project

• Strengths and opportunities
  – Innovative and challenging
  – Many involved, many enthusiastic
  – Opportunities for innovating guidelines

• Weaknesses and threats
  – Guideline groups Depression and Breast cancer have not decided how to deal with the chapter
  – How to go on after this project?
Recommendations

- Awareness
- Recognition
- Explicit description in CPG
- Giving clues for dealing
- Moral deliberation
Thank you for your attention!

• Comments are welcome:
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