



## 2019 EACME Annual Conference

Oxford, 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> September 2019

### 'Rethinking Ethics in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Europe'

#### First announcement - Call for abstracts

Just as thinking in medical ethics has shaped medicine and medical sciences, developments in medicine and new technologies have also been shaping medical ethics since its beginning. Clinical and research practices have always had to be rethought and norms redefined in response to biomedical advances and social change. Developments in ethics, society and medicine are inseparable.

In the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, bioethics responded to developments in medical research, life extending treatments, assisted reproduction and to changing social attitudes to medical practitioners and paternalism. Through the development of concepts such as those of informed consent, confidentiality, minimal risk, duties of care and the idea of independent review of research, the 20<sup>th</sup> Century played an important role in ensuring that developments in medicine respected patients and commanded public trust. The emerging questions concerned boundaries of medical intervention or scientific research and respect for the patient or research participants.

Despite the valuable contributions made by 20<sup>th</sup> Century bioethics, in recent years, however, new challenges are being presented by advances in neuroscience, big data, genomics and global connectedness, and by their convergence. Personalised medicine and big data approaches are changing the focus of medicine and increasingly blur boundaries between clinical interventions and research activities. These developments raise important questions about the extent to which 20<sup>th</sup> Century ethics is fit for purpose.

We currently observe a shift in research agendas and a redefinition of normative as well as national boundaries in Europe, and beyond. These changes raise the question as to whether medical ethics in the 21<sup>st</sup> century needs to revisit existing principles and approaches. Do we need to rethink bioethics for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? The 2019 EACME conference in Oxford will respond to a pressing need for ethics, humanities and social sciences research on these new challenges.

The conference will address the following 4 themes:

#### 1. Ethical and Social Impact of New Technologies

- Big Data
- Genomics
- Neuroscience
- Reproduction

#### 3. Ethics in Contexts

- Austerities
- Emergencies
- Clinics
- Communities

#### 2. (Re)defining Boundaries and Borders

- Regulation and law
- Education
- Infections and drug resistance
- Beyond Europe

#### 4. (Re)thinking Traditions and Identities

- Rethinking Professions and Roles
- Patients and Publics
- Nature and Practice of Bioethics
- History, Politics and Values



Persons wishing to present papers at parallel sessions are invited to submit an abstract addressing the ethical dimensions of the main conference topics (250 words maximum) before March 1, 2019. However, submissions on other topics are allowed. Papers will be selected from the abstracts by the Conference Programme Committee. Please submit abstracts online through the link on the conference web page: <https://www.ethox.ox.ac.uk/EACME2019>

EACME invites applications of junior scholars for the EACME prize (see website).

Our website and online abstract submission site will go live in November 2018!

**Contact details and further information:** Mary Foulkes or Aileen Mooney: [admin@ethox.ox.ac.uk](mailto:admin@ethox.ox.ac.uk)

**Congress president:** Michael Parker

**Scientific secretary:** Ruth Horn

**Conference website:** <https://www.ethox.ox.ac.uk/EACME2019>

**Ethox Centre and Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities**

Nuffield Department of Population Health | University of Oxford

Big Data Institute | Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Information and Discovery

Oxford | OX3 7LF

In addition, there will be two satellite meetings on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019 (please check our website for any further meetings):

1. The Open Forum Day of the European Clinical Ethics Network (ECEN; [www.ecenetwork.org](http://www.ecenetwork.org)). Please contact Bert Molewijk: [a.molewijk@vumc.nl](mailto:a.molewijk@vumc.nl)
2. European Network of the Cambridge Consortium for Bioethics Education. Please contact Yesim Isil Ulman: [yesimul@yahoo.com](mailto:yesimul@yahoo.com)