**Topic F**: Reason and Impartiality in Ethics.

Reason/Rationality is one the most important characters that distinguishes us from other animals makes us human.

One of the most important functions of reasoning is **“decision making”**. In ethics making decisions that are right and good is of the most importance.

When the decision is made you need to apply it in life and for that, you need to be impartial or unbiased.

If you have the belief through the reasoning that “stealing is wrong and those steals should be punished” and then if your child steals you cannot say “it is not wrong”. This is where you apply **impartiality**.

However, to decide what kind of punishment you need to give to your child you will again require reasoning. You cannot simply lock them down for months. Options could also include rehabilitation by making them understand the meaning of stealing, why it is wrong, and what could be the outcome if they continue to do so. This is basically improving their habits and abilities through reasoning.

Similarly, all ethical practices involve reasoning and partiality. What is morally wrong in a given situation would be wrong in all similar situations and should almost result in the same moral judgment. (Shanker, 2021)

# Works Cited

Shanker, S. (2021, 01 26). *Quoara .* Retrieved from https://qr.ae/pvOikE

**Topic G**: Learning Plan: *Application of the Seven Steps Model and the Moral Frameworks*This case literature in ethics has been adapted from Scott Rae's original. This is all about medical ethics. The place where this situational case had happened is here in the Philippines wherein the concern personalities in the story are immigrants from India. There is a sixty-seven-year-old Indian woman who was diagnosed with cancer which is usually treated by chemotherapy. In the hospital the patient was recognized as a fully competent individual who can make her own decision. She knows that something is wrong with her and appears fearful and anxious about what getting well might involve She lives with her son and his wife. The family appears to be happy. Her son has taken the responsibility for her as her husband had already died long ago. The son translates for her almost all information needing translating. The son does not want her to know anything more than the bare minimum about the treatment as he fears she will give up on life and resign herself to dying. The son was strongly motivated by cultural and values. The patient does not know her full diagnosis and full effects of chemotherapy. She knows she is sick and the treatment will make her feel sick to her stomach and as well as losing her hair, If you were the doctor, what will you do? Will you follow the family's wishes? Or will you decide to let the patient know about her diagnosis even if it increases her fear and alienates you from them?

**Gather Facts:**

We need to go back over to the information given and then write down the facts.

* There is a sixty-seven-years-old Indian woman was diagnosed with cancer which is usually treated by chemotherapy.
* In the hospital, the patient was recognized as a fully competent individual who can make her own decision.
* She knows that something is wrong with her and appears fearful and anxious about what getting well might involve.
* She lives with her son and his wife.
* The family appears to be happy.
* Her son has taken the responsibility for her and her husband had already died long ago.
* The son translates for her with almost all information needing translating.
* The son does not want her to know anything more than the bare minimum about the treatment as he fears she will give up on life and resign herself to dying.
* The son was strongly motivated by cultural and family values.
* The patient does not know her full diagnosis and full effects of chemotherapy.
* She knows she is sick and the treatment will make her feel sick to her stomach and as well as losing her hair.

**Identity Stakeholders:**

* Sixty-year-old Indian woman
* Her son
* Her son’s wife

**Articulate Dilemma:**

VERSUS

Tell the patient about her diagnosis and condition

Follow the family’s wishes

Deontological Principle Deontological Principle

The dilemma dies on the two conflicting options illustrated above. The first option which is to follow the family’s wishes is in conflict with the second option which is to tell the patient about her condition. If the doctor will choose the first option, then he or she will patient’s right to give informed consent specially that chemotherapy is a very invasive treatment. The doctor also fails to deliver his or her obligation to act in the patient’s best interest. Lastly, the doctor also ignores the law regarding informed consent must be applied, thus he or she will violate the law if he or she will choose the first option. On the other hand, if the doctor chooses the second, the he or she ignores the family wishes which has strong impact to them. Choosing the second option is also a form of disrespect towards family’s culture and values. As a result, the doctor alienates himself or herself from the family members.

So, in this case, there would be no easy option since there are arising conflicts which are worthy of considerations. The ethical principle which has bearing on his case is the deontological principle, it says that universal maxims or codes must always be followed regardless of one’s feelings without exceptions. In the first option, maxim of recognizing and respect cultural values, tradition, and norms is definitely a universalizable maxim. Thus, it is a duly or obligation for everyone to recognize and respect one’s cultural values, traditions and norms. On the second option, the right of a person to have an informed consent, the obligation of the medical team to act in the patient’s interest, and as well the law regarding the informed consent must be applied, all these are universalizable maxims and rights which are ought to be followed without any questions. Now, we can see and understand in this discussion that there are indeed conflicting universal maxims which must be resolved in order to elicit a valid moral decision.

**List Alternatives**

* Attempt to convince the family of the seriousness of the treatment and why she needs to know
* Call an ethics committee conference to discuss the case and try to convince the family to tell her
* Ask the patient directly if she wants to know the details of all that is happening

**Compare Alternatives with the Principles:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ALTERNATIVES** | **MAXIMS**   * Respect for one’s cultural values, traditions, and norms | **MAXIMS**   * Patient’s right to have informed consent * Doctor’s obligation to act in the patient’s best interest * Law requiring the application of an informed consent |
| **Attempt to convince the family of the seriousness of the treatment and why she needs to know** | Uncertain  Most likely the attempt will be a failure | Uncertain  Most likely the attempt will be a failure |
| **Call an ethics committee conference to discuss the case and try to convince the family to tell her** | Uncertain  Most likely the attempt will be a failure | Uncertain  Most likely the attempt will be a failure |
| **Ask the patient directly if she wants to know the details of all that is happening** | Disrespect if the mother will agree and ask for the details of her condition  Realized if the mother will opt not to know | Realized and respected in either cases  The right to know and not to know are either respected |

**Weight Consequences:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MORAL CHOICES** | **POSITIVECONSEQUENCES** | **NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES** |
| Follow the family’s wishes | * Family is happy * Cultural values, traditions, and norms are respected | * Patient continues to be fearful and anxious about the treatment * Patient may discover soon and trust is compromised |
| Tell the patient about her diagnosis and condition | * Patient might be happy | * Family feels alienated * Cultural values have been violated * Family may take the patient to another hospital * Patient may give up |
| Ask the patient directly if she wants to know the details of all that is happening | * Patient will speak for herself and make decision * Both law and culture are satisfied if the mother will choose her son to decide for that matter * Patent will be relieved in a sense that her rights are respected | * Family is unhappy and cultural values are disrespected if the mother chooses to know |