

Question with Answer

Bioethics Frameworks

1. What is bioethics?

Ans. Bioethics is the study of ethical issues in medicine and biology, ensuring fairness, patient rights, and responsible decision-making.

2. Why is informed consent important in medical ethics?

Ans. It ensures that patients understand risks and benefits before agreeing to medical procedures, respecting their autonomy.

3. How does autonomy influence medical decision-making?

Ans. Autonomy allows patients to make their own healthcare decisions based on informed consent. It ensures that medical professionals respect a patient's choices, even if they decline treatment. This principle protects individual rights and personal beliefs in medical care.

4. What is the role of AI in bioethics? How does bioethics apply to organ donation?

Ans. AI assists in diagnosis and treatment decisions but must be unbiased and follow ethical guidelines to ensure fairness. Bioethics ensures fair and just allocation of organs based on medical urgency, not social status.

5. How does the principle of Non-Maleficence apply in surgery?

Ans. It ensures that doctors take necessary precautions to avoid harming patients during procedures.

6. Why is autonomy crucial in end-of-life care?

Ans. It allows patients to make their own decisions regarding treatments, including choosing palliative care.

7. How does justice apply to organ transplantation decisions?

Ans. Justice ensures that organ transplantation is allocated fairly based on medical urgency and survival chances rather than social or financial status. Ethical organ distribution follows policies that reduce bias and prioritize patient needs, ensuring equal access to healthcare.

8. What is transparency in bioethics, and why is it important?

Ans. Transparency in bioethics refers to openness and clear communication in healthcare decision-making. It ensures that patients and stakeholders understand medical processes, risks, and ethical considerations, supporting trust and informed decision-making.

9. What is the risk of ethical issues when medical institutions lack transparency?

Ans. A lack of transparency can lead to misinformation, exploitation of patients, and loss of trust. Patients may be subjected to treatments or trials without proper consent, violating ethical principles like autonomy and justice.

10. What is the principle of beneficence in bioethics?

Ans. Beneficence encourages healthcare professionals to act in the best interest of patients. It involves maximizing benefits, reducing risks, and ensuring that treatments and interventions improve patient well-being.

11. How does beneficence apply to medical treatment decisions?

Ans. Doctors must prioritize patient well-being when recommending treatments, ensuring that medical interventions provide more benefits than risks. For example, administering pain relief during surgery to improve a patient's comfort aligns with beneficence.

12. Give an example where beneficence and autonomy may conflict in medical ethics.

Ans. A patient with a life-threatening disease refuses treatment based on personal beliefs. While life-saving interventions may be available, their decision requires the doctor to suspend treatment, creating an ethical dilemma.

Competency Based Questions

1. A Patient is diagnosed with a rare disease. The doctor suggests an experimental treatment, but the patient is not fully informed about the risks.

(i) What principle of bioethics is being violated?

- (a) Justice
- (b) Autonomy**
- (c) Beneficence
- (d) Non-Maleficence

(ii) How can the doctor ensure ethical practice?

- (a) Proceed without explaining the risks
- (b) Force the patient to take the treatment
- (c) Provide full information and obtain informed consent**
- (d) Let family members decide without the patient's input

2. Two patients, one a 70-year-old retired teacher and the other a 30-year-old single mother, both need a kidney transplant. Only one kidney is available.

(i) Which ethical principle is most relevant in this decision?

- (a) Autonomy
- (b) Privacy**
- (c) Justice
- (d) Non-Maleficence

(ii) How should the decision be made ethically?

- (a) Give the kidney to the patient who offers more money
- (b) Prioritize based on medical urgency and survival chance**
- (c) Let the doctor decide based on personal preference
- (d) Select randomly without considering ethical guidelines

3. An AI system is used in a hospital to recommend treatment plans, but it is found to be biased against older patients.

(i) What ethical issue does this AI system violate?

- (a) Privacy
- (b) Transparency
- (c) Fairness and Justice**
- (d) Autonomy

(ii) How can this issue be addressed?

- (a) Keep using the AI without changes
- (b) Train the AI with more diverse and unbiased data**
- (c) Ban AI from all healthcare decision-making
- (d) Ignore the bias since AI is faster than doctors

Assertions & Reasoning Questions

Directions

In the following questions, a statement of assertion (A) is followed by a statement of reason (R).

Mark the correct choice as:

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true but R is false (or partly true).
- (d) A is false (or partly true) but R is true.
- (e) Both A and R are false or not fully true.

1. Assertion (A): Autonomy in bioethics ensures that patients have the right to refuse medical treatment.

Reason (R): A patient's personal choice must always be respected, even if the decision leads to their harm.

Answer – (a)

2. **Assertion (A):** Justice in bioethics ensures that resources are allocated based on social status.
Reason (R): Healthcare should be equally accessible to all, regardless of economic or social background.
Answer – (d)
3. **Assertion (A):** Informed consent is necessary before any major medical procedure.
Reason (R): Patients must be aware of the risks and benefits before making a decision.
Answer – (a)
4. **Assertion (A):** Bioethics discourages organ transplantation.
Reason (R): Organ transplants must be conducted fairly and ethically.
Answer – (d)
5. **Assertion (A):** The principle of beneficence requires medical professionals to act in the best interest of patients.
Reason (R): Beneficence in bioethics ensures that doctors prioritize financial gain over patient health.
Answer – (c)
6. **Assertion (A):** AI used in bioethics must be trained with unbiased data.
Reason (R): AI bias can lead to unfair treatment of certain patients in healthcare.
Answer – (a)
7. **Assertion (A):** Non-Maleficence allows doctors to take risks without considering patient safety.
Reason (R): The principle of Non-Maleficence ensures that harm to patients is minimized.
Answer – (d)

True or False Questions

1. Bioethics only applies to medical research and not to healthcare practice. — False
2. The principle of autonomy allows patients to refuse medical treatment even if it might save their life. — True
3. Non-Maleficence means that doctors can take risks without considering the harm to patients. — False
4. Justice in bioethics ensures that only wealthy individuals get access to the best medical treatment. — False
5. Organ transplantation decisions should be based on medical urgency and fairness, not personal preferences. — True
6. Bioethics helps balance scientific progress with ethical responsibility. — True

7. Informed consent means that patients must follow whatever their doctor suggests. — False
8. Medical professionals should always consider ethical guidelines when conducting clinical trials. — True
9. The bioethics framework prevents discrimination in healthcare and research. — True
10. The main goal of bioethics is to slow down medical advancements. — False