



Ethics in Health Services Management, Fifth Edition

By Kurt Darr

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Ranked a *core title* by Doody's Review Services, **Ethics in Health Services Management, Fifth Edition** provides the principles to educate students and guide practitioners as they strive to make the "right" decision when ethical problems arise. The ethical dimensions of managing health services are daunting, but this highly regarded volume teaches managers how to recognize and respond confidently to the challenges of ethics and conduct in their work.

Offering a solid foundation for effectively identifying and solving ethical problems, this book objectively examines the difficult choices and ethical implications raised as managers operationalize the principles of respect for persons, beneficence, nonmaleficence, and justice. The fifth edition of this text features seven all-new cases, with expanded attention to public health and the coordination of community health services.

Filled with practical, problem-solving strategies and tools, **Ethics in Health Services Management** will educate and inform those who would be leaders in health services organizations. Readers will come to understand their roles as moral agents, expected to balance the demands of the organization with the autonomy, primacy, and protection of patients. This is an indispensable text for health services management education and a primer for both clinical and nonclinical managers.

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Editorial Review

Review

****Description**** This brief primer on major ethical issues facing those in health services management positions updates the 2005 fourth edition. ****Purpose**** The purpose is to introduce students of health services management and those already in management positions to major ethical issues that they may face in the field. It seeks to provide an opportunity for managers to critique their previously held views and establish an ethic that carries through in their work. Ultimately, the book succeeds in pushing readers to be critical of the ethics embedded in health management. ****Audience**** The book is intended for both students and current health managers, and it meets the needs of both audiences with a good deal of success. The author presents the material in a manner that underscores his experience and expertise with health management and the ethical challenges inherent within the field. ****Features**** A brief discussion of ethical theories begins the book, which then proceeds to explore the application of the theories in a number of clinical and administrative scenarios through case analysis. These scenarios include ethical decision-making about patients and issues with the community as well as organizational complexities, including conflicts of interest and marketing in the managed care environment. Of particular note is the discussion throughout of how managers ought to represent the values of their institution while similarly developing their own personal ethic to guide them in addressing difficult ethical challenges. ****Assessment**** The author's encouragement to develop a personal ethic and to actively reflect the mission of the institution is laudable. However, he seems to overemphasize the health manager's authority in implementing a personal ethic to address ethically challenging issues, describing the manager as the "conscience" of the institution. Nonetheless, the book provides a nice introduction to ethics in health management and this new edition brings updated information and new data to the challenging subject. ----- --Weighted Numerical Score: 81 - 3 Stars (Ryan F Holmes, MA, Saint Louis University *Doody's Review Service* 2012-03-16)

[T]he book succeeds in pushing readers to be critical of the ethics embedded in health management...[and] provides a nice introduction to ethics in health management...this new edition brings updated information and new data to the challenging subject. (Ryan F Holmes, MA, Saint Louis University *Doody's Review Service* 2012-03-16) --(Ryan F Holmes, MA, Saint Louis University *Doody's Review Service* 2012-03-16)

About the Author

Kurt Darr is Professor of Hospital Administration in the Department of Health Services Management and Leadership and Professor of Health Care Sciences at The George Washington University. He holds the Doctor of Science from The Johns Hopkins University and the Master of Hospital Administration and Juris Doctor from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Darr completed his administrative residency at Rochester (Minnesota) Methodist Hospital and subsequently worked as an administrative associate at the Mayo Clinic. After being commissioned in the U.S. Navy, he served in administrative and educational assignments at St. Albans Naval Hospital and Bethesda Naval Hospital. He completed postdoctoral fellowships with the Department of Health and Human Services, the World Health Organization, and the Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration. Dr. Darr is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, a member of the District of Columbia and Minnesota Bars, and serves as a mediator in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. He serves on commissions and committees for various professional organizations, including The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the American College of Healthcare Executives, and the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education. He is a voluntary consultant to several hospitals in the District of Columbia metropolitan area. Dr. Darr regularly presents seminars on health services ethics, hospital

organization and management, quality improvement, and the application of the Deming method in health services. He is the author and editor of several books used in graduate health services administration programs and numerous articles on health services topics.

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