

On 3 October 1992, OCBEN presented its third annual all-day Bioethics Conference entitled "Patient Care Decision Making: At a Crossroads?" The full day agenda covered Persistent Vegetative State: The Medical Meaning and Its Implications for Treatment Decisions; Decisions to Forgo Treatment for Patients with Severe Dementia Who are Not Terminally Ill; Surrogates for Incapacitated Patients Who Have neither Family nor Friends; How Is the Patient Self-Determination Act Working in California?; A Panel Discussion: Advance Directives—How Can Patients, Doctors and Nurses Work Together?; Ethics Committees and Case Based Methods; and Case Review and Consultation: How Can Ethics Committees Learn the Necessary Skills? Faculty included Corrine Bayley, David Blake, Peter Clarke, Susan Evans, Jack Glaser, Jay Hartz, Sharon Mass, Carl Orfuss, Robert Pearlman, Judith Wilson Ross, Marilyn Shirk, and Michael Van Scoy Mosher.

✓ **The Division of Medical Ethics: Departments of Internal Medicine at the LDS Hospital and University of Utah School of Medicine**

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Formed in 1989, the Division of Medical Ethics serves as a conduit of information for ethics committees in the intermountain region through 1) edu-

cation (providing reference material and/or presentations on specific topics for committees), 2) conference activities (a recent example was the conference "Ethics Committees and Morality Plays: A Shared Search for Virtue"), and 3) responses to requests for bioethics consultations. The primary purposes of the Division of Medical Ethics are to help educate physicians at all levels of training about ethical issues and to conduct research that will provide information useful for teaching and the development of public policy. Regular monthly activities are described in a newsletter, which circulates to interested individuals in the intermountain region. Programs include a Clinical Ethics Elective for Medical Students, monthly Medical Ethics Conferences for Internal Medicine Residents and other healthcare professionals, Evening Ethics Discussion Group, and a Physicians' Literature Discussion Group. A notable recent accomplishment of the Division was the presentation of a 2-week required course in Medical Ethics for 4th-year students at the University of Utah School of Medicine.

Current members of the Division include Jay A. Jacobson, M.D. (Department of Internal Medicine), Leslie P. Francis, Ph.D., J.D. (Department of Philosophy and College of Law), David Green, M.D. (Department of Pediatrics), and Margaret P. Battin, Ph.D. (Department of Philosophy). All members of the Division are active participants in the teaching and research program, and all are members of one or more ethics committees at hospitals in the region.