



DR. PABLO O. TORRE
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

RIVERSIDE MEDICAL CENTER, INC.



METRO PACIFIC HEALTH
THE HEART OF FILIPINO HEALTHCARE

DEPARTMENT: Medical Services Division		POLICY NUMBER: DPOTMH-MPP-BIOETHICS-P001-(01)	
TITLE/DESCRIPTION: BIOETHICS POLICY			
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 15, 2024	REVISION DUE: June 14, 2027	REPLACES NUMBER: N/A	NO. OF PAGES: 1 of 5
APPLIES TO: All Clinicians meaning, All Physicians, Nurses, Pharmacist, Psychologists, Social Workers, Medical Technicians, Corporate Communications Officer, Chaplains and other responsible for the welfare of the patients		POLICY TYPE: Multi Disciplinary	

PURPOSE:

1. The moral component of bioethics is based on the principle of avoiding unnecessary harm and/or injury while furthering human interests and the good of human society. Bioethics begins with the idea that all living beings and natural processes have a purpose. Every living being is acknowledged as deserving of moral consideration.
2. Bioethics provides the framework to help us deal more effectively with a host of issues in our personal and professional lives. It enhances communication and facilitates conflict resolution and because of its democratic process, it provides a firm foundation for a just humane society.
3. Medical or Clinical ethics fall under the discipline of Bioethics. The central feature of the clinical encounter is the therapeutic relationship between clinicians and patient relationship with a professional identity that obliges them to give priority to the patient's interest, to devote themselves to competent care of the patient, to preserve confidentiality and to communicate honestly and compassionately.

DEFINITIONS:

Bioethics is the study of moral issues in the fields of biology and health. It is a field of self investigation and enlightened self interest and it therefore provides a foundation for a meaningful human life.

RESPONSIBILITY:

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POLICY:

1. DPOTMH recognizes the sanctity of life and therefore shall not allow unwarranted destruction of life like Criminal Abortion, when the pregnancy is artificially terminated by medical or surgical mean without acceptable medical indication.
2. In Spontaneous Abortion, which occurs as as result of natural causes, mothers may be admitted for treatment.
3. Therapeutic abortions may be permitted when the life of the mother is a stake as in cases of malignancy of the uterus.
4. Alleviation of pain is an important feature in treatment of patient admitted to DPOTMH but Euthanasia, a DELIBERATE application of any mean to accelerate the death of a person who may



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be suffering from an incurable and distressing illness shall not be sanctioned by DPOTMH.

5. DPOTMH respects the rights of patients to confidentiality of the information revealed to medical personnel. As provided in the Code of Medical Ethics, a physician shall not be authorized to divulge any information gathered from a patient during a physician-patient relationship or about what the physician perceives or observed in a patient to a third party who has no concern with the interest or welfare of the patient. Such information therefore shall be treated as confidential between the patient and the physician.
6. Residents, interns and nurses and other hospital personnel who may have access to any information shall not be authorized to divulge such information to a third party. If there are any injuries, they should refer the matter to the attending physician.
7. The Medical Records Section or Hospital Information System is the custodian of the patient's records. It is not allowed to release any information nor part of it or all the patient's charts to anybody unless there is authority from both the patient and the physician.
8. The law protects the confidentiality of information in the course of a physician-patient relationship except when such disclosure will serve public health and safety. The hospital should report to the proper DOH authorities the treatment of highly contagious or communicable diseases and physical injuries in suspected abuse victims.
9. Physicians, nurses and other hospital personnel should not make any comments concerning any inadequacies, errors or mistakes made by anyone in front of patients or relatives and visitors. Likewise, proceedings during conferences and discussions should be kept within the walls of the conference room.
10. DPOTMH, being an accredited training hospital in the major departments, encourages research among its medical and paramedical staff in an effort to advance the practice of medicine. In cases of research and experimentation involving human subjects, the following guidelines shall be observed.
 - 10.1. The clinical research shall conform to the moral and scientific principles that justify the research.
 - 10.2. Clinical research shall be conducted or at least supervised by scientifically qualified persons.
 - 10.3. A new drug, diagnostic or therapeutic procedure must have been well tested in animals and there must have been enough literary basis before it is tested on human beings.
 - 10.4. The importance of the objective of the research must be in proportion to the risks that the



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subject may encounter.

10.5. Informed consent shall be signed by all subjects after thorough explanation of objective, risks and benefits of the research.

10.6. The subject shall be free to terminate the experiment on him at any stage and for whatever reason.

10.7. A clinical research using human beings as subjects shall pass through the Bioethics Committee for approval.

10.8. Results of such clinical research shall be made known to the public in a paper presentation through an appropriate medical journal.

RIGHTS OF PATIENTS ADMITTED TO DR. PABLO O. TORRE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

1. Right to receive competent and compassionate care.
2. Right to be treated with dignity and participate fully in all aspects of care.
3. Right to receive information about one's diagnosis, medical condition and treatment in terms that the patient will understand.
4. Right to be given an explanation of all procedures and be informed about the customs of care.
5. Right to receive information about pain and pain relief.
6. Right to receive assessment and management of pain.
7. Right to receive timely response from one's doctor or nurse whenever pain or discomfort is reported.
8. Right to request treatment.
9. Right to refuse treatment to the extent permitted by the law and be informed of the possible consequences of said refusal.
10. Right to know the name and professional titles of caregivers.
11. Right to request a change of your healthcare provider.
12. Right to receive medical care without discrimination regardless of race, religion, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability or social status.



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PROCEDURE (SOP): N/A
WORK INSTRUCTION: N/A
WORK FLOW: N/A
FORMS: N/A
EQUIPMENT: N/A
REFERENCES: N/A



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