

Keynote
Ethical and legal challenges

José-Antonio SEOANE

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Healthcare professions deal not just with facts but also with values and norms. Since higher education and research are mainly focused on the technical aspects, the ethical and legal ones are somewhat neglected, even though the ability to integrate these three dimensions is decisive in order to make healthcare decisions and to become a good professional.

The aim of this keynote is to explain the ethical and legal meaning of integrated care and to address its main challenges, trying to answer two questions: what *is* integrated care and what *should* integrated care *be*.

In order to do so, I explore the evolution of integrated care by defining its meaning (what?), participants (who?), places (where?), stages (when?), reasons (why?), and perspectives (how?) throughout three historical moments (past, present, and future), and then discuss its implications for clinical education, research and practice.

Workshop

Ethical and legal challenges in practice

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Correct decisions in Ethics and Law are made through balancing and prudential argumentation, and the same claim could be made for healthcare decision-making. Therefore, practical reasoning helps healthcare, ethical and legal professionals to achieve wise decisions in uncertain conditions through deliberation.

Since there are not *a priori* solutions for clinical ethical issues, that cannot be ignored or dealt with intuitively, and neither experience, conscience, common sense or imitation are enough to make a sound decision, healthcare decision-making needs a method. Therefore, a deliberative method can be a good proposal to deal with ethical and legal challenges.

Through a four-level procedure, deliberation assesses the facts, values, duties and norms involved in integrated care, fostering a dialogue among healthcare professionals, patients and society and providing rational justification for the decisions.

Learning to reason as a member of an ethical committee, which is a prominent example of healthcare deliberation, is the main goal of this workshop, which also describes the structure and main features of the deliberative procedure for healthcare decision-making and shows how to tackle with the ethical and legal implications of integrated care.