



**Bioethics Center**  
CHILDREN'S MERCY KANSAS CITY



Certificate Program in

**PEDIATRIC  
BIOETHICS**



Bioethical decision-making in pediatrics diverges from similar decisions in other medical domains because the young child is not an autonomous decision-maker, while the teen is developing—and should be encouraged to develop—autonomy and decisional capacity. Thus, the balance between autonomy and beneficence is fundamentally different in pediatrics than in adult medicine. While ethical dilemmas that reflect these fundamental issues are common, many pediatric physician and nursing training programs do not delve into the issues or offer specific training about how to deal with borderline cases.

Plantz et al. Engaging pediatric health professionals in interactive online ethics education. *Hastings Cent Rep.* 2014 Nov-Dec; 44(6):15-20. Doe: 10.1002/hast.383. Abstract available: <http://www.thehastingscenter.org/Publications/HCR/Detail.aspx?id=7181>.



# Our program serves practicing pediatric health professionals

Our students come from various professional disciplines. They are doctors, nurses, social workers, chaplains, lawyers, psychologists, counselors and health care administrators practicing in pediatrics. Students graduate with a core knowledge of pediatric clinical ethics, research ethics, health law and health policy, focusing exclusively on pediatrics.

## Program features:

- rich mix of faculty expertise
- current readings, webinars and other multimedia
- multidisciplinary
- begins and ends with an intensive, on-site, three-day session
- interactive e-learning
- convenient - on your time, your computer or mobile device



# Each student completes a mentored project during the study year



Student projects have led to over eight publications in peer-reviewed and professional journals, numerous presentations at national meetings, and the development of educational tools to assist health professionals and parents in ethical discussion making.

Some examples:

- Stefan Kutzsche, MD, John Lantos, MD, et al. When Life-sustaining Treatment is Withdrawn and the Patient Doesn't Die. *Pediatrics*. November 2013.
- David McDaniel, MDiv. "How Pediatric Residents and Fellows Process the Death of Patients", ASBH 15th Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., October 2013 [Poster].
- Brandi Polito, BSN, RN, CCRN. "Moral Distress in a Children's Hospital", 30th Annual Pediatric Nursing Conference, National Harbor, Md., July 2013 [Poster].
- Norbert J. Weidner, MD, and Diane M. Plantz, MD, MA. Ethical Considerations in the Management of Analgesia in Terminally Ill Pediatric Patients. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*. November 2014.
- Yuriko Nakashima, MD. "Developing Programs in Pediatric Palliative Care in Mexico."
- Jagdish Chinnappa, MBBS. "Creating a Newborn Screening Program in Bangalore – a Model for India?"

# Building programs back home

Many students have assumed leadership roles in bioethics at their home institutions since completing the program. Some have become chairs of ethics committees. Others have developed new programs in ethics education. Students say that the program improved their ethics consultation skills. This year, we have developed a targeted program to train nurses to be leaders in bioethics in their hospitals and universities. For more information, see our website: [childrensmercy.org](http://childrensmercy.org).



# An international certificate program in Pediatric Bioethics

Our students come from all over the world – including Brazil, Canada, India, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Romania, Serbia and Uganda.



● Brazil   ● Canada   ● Guatemala   ● Iceland   ● India   ● Malawi   ● Malaysia   ● Mexico  
● Norway   ● Pakistan   ● Romania   ● Saudi Arabia   ● Serbia   ● Uganda   ● United States

We offer a limited number of scholarships for students from developing countries thanks in part to the Claire Giannini Fund. Visit our website at [childrensmency.org](http://childrensmency.org) for more information.

## Class of 2016 Hospitals Represented

### UNITED STATES

Children's Hospital at OU Medical Center	Oklahoma City, Okla.
Children's Mercy Kansas City	Kansas City, Mo.
Children's Hospitals of Minnesota – Minneapolis and Gillette Children's Hospitals – St. Paul	Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minn.
LeBonheur Children's Hospital	Memphis, Tenn.
Loma Linda Children's Hospital	Loma Linda, Calif.
Main Line Health Care, Pediatrics at Exton Square	Exton, Pa.
Maria Fareri Children's Hospital @ Westchester Medical Center/NYMC	Valhalla, N.Y.
Rady Children's Hospital San Diego	San Diego, Calif.
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital	Memphis, Tenn.
Truman Medical Center	Kansas City, Mo.
UCSF	San Francisco, Calif.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Arkansas Children's Hospital	Little Rock, Ark.
University of Tennessee Health Science Center and LeBonheur Children's Hospital	Memphis, Tenn.
University of Utah Department of Pediatrics/Primary Children's Hospital	Salt Lake City, Utah

### INTERNATIONAL

All India Institute of Medical Sciences	Madhya Pradesh, India
AMTF - Helping Blood Disorders	Karachi, Pakistan
Clinical Center Kragujevac	Serbia
Hospital Infantil de México Federico Gómez	Mexico City, Mexico
International Medical University	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
J N Medical College (JNMC) KLE University	Karnataka, India
Mildmay Uganda	Kampala, Uganda
Pediatric Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein	São Paulo, Brazil
Queen Elizabeth Central University	Blantyre, Malawi
Rapha Medical Centre & CoRSU Hospital	Kampala, Uganda
St. Spiridon Clinical Emergency County Hospital	Iasi, Romania
University Malaya	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



# Core faculty and staff

Our faculty members are drawn from Children's Mercy Kansas City and the University of Missouri-Kansas City. The faculty includes specialists in neonatology, critical care, rehabilitation medicine, genetics, nursing, social work, law, health care administration and philosophy. The core faculty and staff of the program are:

**Brian S. Carter, MD**, Neonatologist;  
Co-Director, Certificate Program in Pediatric  
Bioethics; Professor of Pediatrics,  
University of Missouri-Kansas City  
School of Medicine

**Jeremy Garrett, PhD**, Assistant Professor of  
Pediatrics; Adjunct Assistant Professor of  
Philosophy, University of Missouri-Kansas City  
School of Medicine

**Mary Ellen Hudson**, Office Manager,  
Children's Mercy Bioethics Center

**Angie Knackstedt, RN-BC, BSN**,  
Co-Director, Certificate Program in Pediatric  
Bioethics

**John D. Lantos, MD**, Director of Children's  
Mercy Bioethics Center; Professor of Pediatrics,  
University of Missouri-Kansas City School of  
Medicine

**Vanessa S. Watkins, MPH, FACHE, CHES**,  
Administrative Director, Certificate Program in  
Pediatric Bioethics



To learn more about the Certificate Program in Pediatric Bioethics,  
or for an application, please visit [www.childrensmercy.org/cmbc](http://www.childrensmercy.org/cmbc)  
or email [cmhc@cmh.edu](mailto:cmhc@cmh.edu).

To reach us by phone, please call (816) 701-5284.

