

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL CENTER'S
PROGRAM IN ETHICS IN SCIENCE AND MEDICINE INVITES YOU TO ATTEND:

ETHICS GRAND ROUNDS

Tuesday, March 14, 2023 – Noon-1:00 p.m. (Central Time)

ETHICS IN ACADEMIA AND THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY: PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

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Many academics in medicine assume that they hold a higher ethical standard than the pharmaceutical industry. Some of this assumption has to do with the presumed not-for-profit nature of academia and the for-profit nature of the pharmaceutical industry. In this discussion, based on my personal experience in both settings, I will contrast and compare the ethical standards of the two groups. I will conclude that they are both ethically challenged with different drawbacks. In academia, the usual ethical problem is an excessive focus on power and prestige; in the pharmaceutical industry, as is well known, the ethical problem is the profit motive. Both are highly problematic, with different causes producing the same effects: the interests of the public are sacrificed for the desires of academics and the pharmaceutical industry. Different strengths also exist: Academic freedom of thought allows for free public expression of ideas, but, combined with tenure and the wish for inclusion in the status quo power structure, it leads to self-censorship and a conservatism of thinking. Academic life begins with free thinking and ends in group think. The pharmaceutical industry is much more open to new ideas because it is not attached to any idea; its main test is practical utility in the marketplace. Hence, it is, paradoxically, much more innovative than academia, but this innovation is only tied to commercial results. Many public health needs are ignored due to non-commercial potential.

This live lecture will be presented virtually.

John Z. Sadler, M.D., Course Director
Program in Ethics in Science & Medicine

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Target Audience: Physicians, faculty, fellows, residents, trainees, students, health care professionals. **Educational Objectives:** At the conclusion of this activity, the participant should be able to: 1) Recognize perennial and emerging bioethical problems in clinical practice, research, public health, and health policy arenas. 2) Describe competing/contrasting viewpoints concerning these bioethical problems. 3) Demonstrate increased skills in analyzing and practically handling bioethical problems in the clinical, research, public health, and health policy arenas. **Educational Method:** Lecture and question-and-answer period. **Accreditation:** The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. **Credit Designation:** The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center designates this live activity for a maximum of **1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)**[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center designates this activity for **1 hour(s)** in medical ethics and/or professional responsibility. **Relevant Financial Relationships:** In accordance with the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accrediting Continuing Education, all persons in the position to control the content of an education activity are required to disclose all financial relationships in any amount occurring within the past 24 months with any ineligible company (any entity whose primary business is producing, marketing, re-selling, or distributing health care goods or services consumed by, or used on patients). UT Southwestern also considers ineligible those companies producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products in development for future use on patients, such as healthcare product research companies. All reported financial relationships with ineligible companies are reviewed for relevancy and then mitigated through a content review process prior to the activity (where applicable).

NCPD: UT Southwestern Medical Center is accredited as a provider of nursing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This activity has been awarded 1.0 contact hour.