

ETHICS GRAND ROUNDS

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 – Noon-1:00 p.m.

Via Zoom at

<https://utsouthwestern-edu.zoom.us/j/96243242172?pwd=S3VZbDBYS2lWMMNCWkVaNlE5UUYyOVU09>

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SURGICAL VOLUME IN GYNECOLOGY: A CALL FOR ETHICAL REFORM

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In this lecture, I describe historical and other influences that drive “double discrimination” in gynecologic surgery - lower pay in the area of surgery, which boasts the largest proportion of female surgeons, and potentially lower quality care for the field’s exclusively female patients. Insurers reimburse procedures for women at a lower rate than similar procedures for men, although there is no medically justifiable reason for this disparity. The wage gap created by lower reimbursement rates disproportionately affects women surgeons who are disproportionately represented among gynecologic surgeons. This contributes to a large wage gap in surgery for women. Finally, poor reimbursement for gynecologic surgery pushes many Ob/Gyn surgeons to preferentially perform obstetric services resulting in a high prevalence of low-volume gynecologic surgeons, a metric that is closely tied to higher complications. Creating equity in reimbursement for gynecologic surgery is one important and ethical step forward to gender equity in medicine for patients and surgeons.

Ethics Grand Rounds videos are available a few days after the lecture at:

<http://hdl.handle.net/2152.5/1292>

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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. **Conflict of Interest:** All persons in the position to control the content of an education activity are required to disclose all relevant financial relationships in any amount occurring within the past 12 months with any entity producing, marketing, re-selling, or distributing health care goods or services consumed by, or used on patients. A primary mechanism to resolve identified conflicts of interest is a content review that is prior to the activity. **Off-Label Uses:** Because this course is meant to educate physicians with what is currently in use and what may be available in the future, there may be “off-label” use discussed in the presentation. Speakers have been requested to inform the audience when off-label use is discussed.

CNE: UT Southwestern Medical Center is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This activity will award one (1) contact hour.