

While acknowledging the goodness of God we are pleased to say that, The Centre for Bioethics could impact many professionals at different levels through having meetings and workshops during the period of October to December 2019.

The description of the events is:

Dr. Jameela George enriched the participants on Basics of Bioethics in the EMFI Regional Conference on “In Understanding Times let us be wise”. The program was conducted for medical students and doctors, on 25th to 27th October 2019, at Navinta New Delhi.



During a workshop from 1st to 2nd November 2019 Dr. Jameela George could address 19 doctors of CMC Ludhiana on the various aspects of forming and functioning of Clinical Ethics Committee in CMC, Ludhiana. This is intended to enhance patient care and satisfaction and to decrease litigations. The picture shows core members of the newly formed CEC.

The Christian Medical Association of India conducted its 45th Biennial Conference from the 6th to 9th November at Hyderabad. Dr. Jameela addressed about 80 participants from various mission hospitals on setting up Clinical Ethics Committees. The same was repeated in the breakaway section for doctors in which about 50 participated.





Church was sensitized on “Anti-abortion and The Life in Womb” by Dr. Jameela George on 10th November at Delhi Bible Fellowship, Gurgaon.

TCB EC: This was held on the 21st of November by conference call from the Dua Associates Office at Janpath.

Meetings in CMC, Vellore:

Dr. Jameela George had the opportunity to meet a number of senior people at CMC, Vellore and had a content review workshop on the 11th and 12th of December, with the team in CMC.

Reports from the Bioethicists:

1. Dr. Sedevi Angami

- ❖ In the month of November my main activities were on taking seminars for theological students on ethical issues, working on a curriculum for nurse educators
- ❖ Had empowerment, whole person care and advocacy with the church to get church to be involved in social action.

2. Dr. Roopa Verghese

- ❖ Had an interactive session with engage disability team ‘ethical though process for common man on disability and palliative care’ a bioethical viewpoint.
- ❖ Also continued to work on the modules.

3. Dr. Achanma Chandi

- ❖ Participated in the Ethics classes held for the intern batch and first clinical batch of the MBBS students.
- ❖ On November 28, 29 and 30 attended a conference on Science and Religion for which the resource persons were from Faraday group of UK.
- ❖ On November 27 attended a talk on Gene Editing by a Stem Cell faculty which was chaired by Dr. Biju George, Head of Haematology department. Discussions centered around how gene editing should be preferentially used by which the patient has a benefit towards some recovery in the disease condition.
- ❖ December 11th and 12th along with Dr. Jameela George the faculty of Bioethics department started work on editing of the modules for PGDCBE
- ❖ My Capstone Project has been published in the International Journal Reproductive Biomedicine and Society Online [RBMSOnline] Title: Knowledge and Attitude of sub fertile couples towards disposition of supernumerary cryopreserved embryos : an Indian perspective.

Dr. Satish Thomas

- ❖ I continue taking ethics classes for the MBBS students in BCMCH, Thiruvalla. I also engage with CMF Kerala graduates in ethics matters and discussions.
- ❖ I have also been involved in writing and refining of material for PG diploma course in ethics of TCB.

Dr. Ashita Singh

At Chinchpada we have continued to have regular *bedside discussions* around bioethical issues particularly End-of-life care, autonomy, and justice.

- ❖ These discussions are developing into rich discussions as the team at the hospital including doctors (both consultants and junior doctors); nurses, and auxiliary hospital workers are being enabled to engage more and more with these issues.
- ❖ They are beginning to have stronger convictions and more nuanced opinions and approaches, which shows in their day-to-day interactions and decisions. The ripple effect shows in interactions patients and their families, as well as with the wider community.
- ❖ Each of these effects result in affirmation of human dignity which is very crucial, particularly as we work among people who are particularly disempowered and vulnerable.

Affirming dignity:

- ❖ One of the highlights of *affirming dignity* was the annual hospital Christmas celebration, at which people with disability and palliative care patients of the hospital's home care program were the special guests. Children and adults with various disabilities, were efficiently brought to their seats of honor by the 40 odd community volunteers who came especially for this purpose.
- ❖ Palliative care patients, some of who were so weak that they needed beds to lie on as they participated in the evening, again all arranged so they would not miss out on the best view and music. As we spoke, read and sang to them of the matchless hope and true Life that Jesus brings to them, it was humbling to see the delight and joy on their faces. The message somehow seemed so much more powerful in the face of the suffering in the tent, than perhaps it would have been where there was more (temporary) comfort...

Upcoming events:

- ❖ TCB special meeting on the 17th of January 2020
- ❖ Clinical Ethics Committee workshop on the 7th of February
- ❖ Palliative care workshop on the 18th & 19th of February
- ❖ TCB follow up of special meeting on the 28th of February
- ❖ IEM CLHTC workshop on the 3rd of March at Lalitpur
- ❖ TCB EC & Board on the 14th of March 2020