

## Euthanasia / Medical Ethics

- 1) What are the differences and/or similarities between each of the following:
  - A) Legal execution
  - B) Death in War
  - C) Accidental Homicide
  - D) Murder
  - E) Suicide
  - F) Euthanasia
- 2) Euthanasia
  - A) Define euthanasia
  - B) What are the common reasons given for euthanasia?
  - C) What Scriptures and Biblical principles directly address euthanasia?
- 3) List some of the reasons that people are either born with or develop of handicaps? (Physical / Mental Disabilities)
- 4) Are handicaps part of God's original design? What is God's role in handicaps after the Fall?
- 5) Do handicaps or "quality of life" issues change the value of human life according to God?
- 6) End of Life care:
  - A. Living Wills. What are they? What are their advantages? What are their disadvantages?
  - B. DNR. (Do Not Resuscitate). When are they immoral? When could they be moral? Note: there can be levels of DNR that specifically allow or restrict certain medical treatments.
  - C. Hospice. What is it? What are its disadvantages? What are its advantages?
  - D. What involvement should the church have in the ongoing political battles over euthanasia?
- 7) Hippocratic Oath - Original & changes  
How has the Hippocratic oath changed in some medical training institutions? How are those changes dangerous? How have those changes already affected medical care?
- 8) Competence for Medical decision making (age, mental capacity, coercion)  
When does a person become competent for making their own medical decisions?  
What factors can make a person incompetent to make their own medical decisions?  
Who should make medical decisions for those who are incompetent to make their own?  
At what point should a person have a health care proxy? (Designating someone to be given patient medical information and legal right to make healthcare decisions on the patient's behalf)
- 9) Experimental Medical Treatments
  - A. Medical Research. When is it immoral to use humans for medical research? When is it acceptable for humans to be used for medical research

B. EUA (Emergency Use Authorization). What is a EUA? When should they be used? What restrictions are placed on a EUA?

C. The Nuremberg Code. What are they? How are they supposed to protect humans?

10) Vaccines

A. How has the definition for it changed over time and why is that significant?

B. How is a vaccine supposed to give protection from a specific disease to the one that receives it?

C. When is it appropriate to require vaccination for participation in some societal function? What exemptions already exist from such required vaccinations? What factors can make that vaccination mandates immoral? (Including factors of origin, development and manufacturing).

D. What factors will help you determine whether you or your children should receive a particular vaccine?

D. What is mRNA technology for producing Genetic Modification Interventional Medical Product (Example: The Covid 19 “vaccines” that met the new definition a vaccine)? How does its mode of action work compared to a traditional vaccine? Why was it given EUA status? Was it legal to mandate it?

11) If you do not have a medical / science background in order to do your own research into a proposed medical treatment, what general factors can help you determine whether to pursue such a treatment or not? Where would you look to find the information needed to make such a determination? What cautions should you take in giving medical advice to others?

12) Reading the fine print

Medication authorization - What protections / rights are you giving up?

Example: Few people read the authorization forms they signed to get a Covid VAX. The form explained the known risks, but also included all unknown risks as being exempt from any liability to the developer / manufacturer of the medical product.

Hospital Admissions - What protections / rights are you giving up?

Some hospital admission forms yield to the hospital the right to given certain treatments without the permission of the patient. In the Covid era, this included the Covid VAX and specific EUA treatments - and exempted the hospital from liability.

13) The Covid-19 Crises

Given the much greater information that has been gained since the Covid-19 crises began in 2020, how would you respond to a similar crisis in the future? Include what information you would need in order to determine your response.

A) Mandatory shutdown of “non-essential businesses”

B) Mandatory shutdown of churches

C) Mandatory masks and social distancing. (When are facial masks helpful?)

D) Mandatory “vaccination

E) Mandatory quarantine of those who are sick

F) Restrictions on medical treatments that have been proven safe for other medical conditions and have shown at least anecdotal effectiveness in preventing / treating the current epidemic disease.

## G) Medical screening for participation in social events

Case 1: You are called to the hospital and the family wants to discuss with you whether they should sign a DNR for their comatose relative. What questions should you ask? What godly advice can you give them concerning the DNR? How will you comfort them?

Case 2: An elderly member of your church has been diagnosed with a terminal cancer that is in advanced stages. The doctor's prognosis is perhaps 3-6 months to live. You are called to discuss both preparing for death and end of life care including consideration of a living will, a DNR and hospice care. How will you help them think through the issues in order to make an appropriate decision? (Variation. You live in a State that allows for Doctor assisted euthanasia. The elderly member is afraid of the pain that will be experienced as the cancer advances and is wondering about taking advantage of that law).

Case 3: You have been called to the hospital to talk with a family in your church about their 24 year old son that was in a car accident a few weeks ago and had been placed on life support. It appears he has now had a stroke and has been diagnosed as "brain dead." The family has been asked to remove life support. What advice can you give them to help them make a decision?

Case 4: You have been called to help a family work through a conflict that has developed over a 36 year old female family member that was in an accident and has been comatose for almost 2 years. She is able to breath on her own, but requires a gastric tube for feeding and hydration. She has minimal response to stimuli. The husband is arguing that he is tired of seeing his wife in this condition and would like to have food and hydration withheld so that her suffering would end soon. The parents are arguing that if needed, they will take care of her themselves since finances also seems to be an issue for the husband. The siblings are of mixed opinions. There is not a Living Will and the husband signed a DNR a year ago. How can you help this family sort out what is right before God?

Case 5: You have been asked to write a letter of support for a member of your congregation that is applying for a religious exemption from a vaccine. What factors might you include in the letter?