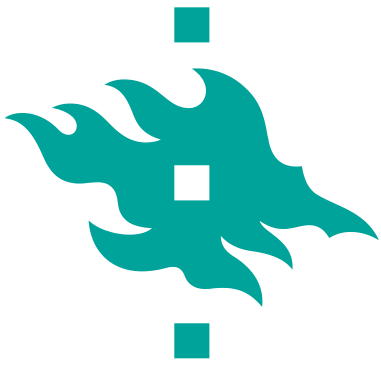




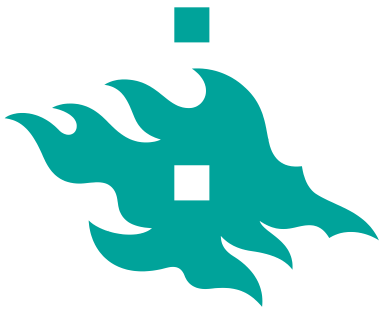
Teaching ethics - what should the students learn about ICT?

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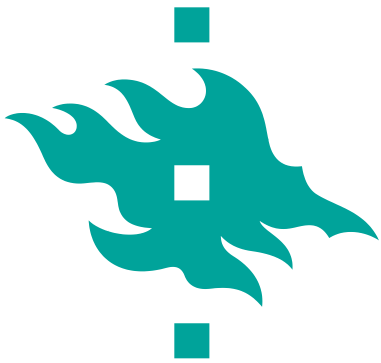
Ethics?

- Moral philosophy; philosophical research where target is morality (morally right and wrong, good and evil, good life, etc.)
- Societal philosophy also part of ethics
- View and methods philosophical / abstract, problems and issues may be concrete



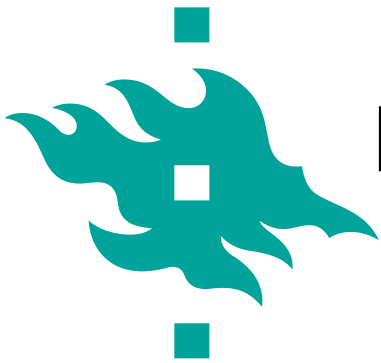
Applied ethics

- "practical ethics": examination of moral issues connected to "authentic", concrete, real situations and practice, for example from the view of different theories of normative ethics
- Special fields: bioethics, medical ethics, ethics of different disciplines and professions, research ethics, ethical issues of war and peace etc, ...
- Not putting theories or concepts of moral philosophy into practice



Four principles of medical ethics (Beauchamp & Childress)

- Respect of Autonomy
 - Doing good (beneficence)
 - Avoiding harm
 - Justice
- Mechanical?
- Later: Maximizing benefits, human dignity



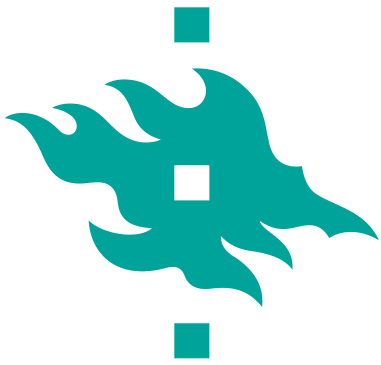
Principles of Health Care Ethics





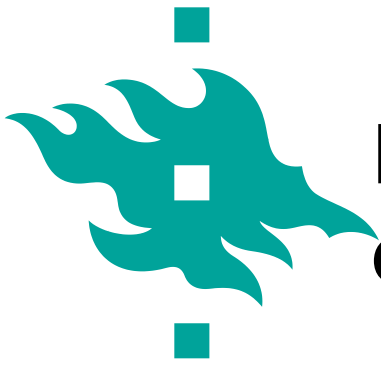
ICT

- Has significantly changed the functions of health care
- new levels of information are accessible to anybody interested
- a new environment
 - virtual, fast
 - challenge both for professionals and patients
- new ways of thinking



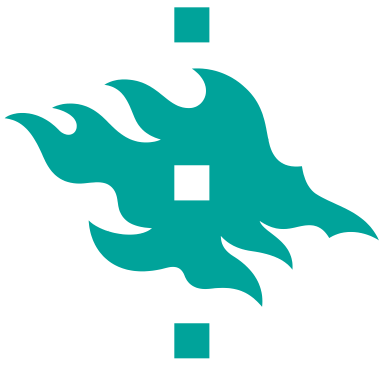
New environment

- Empowerment
- Inclusivity
- Respect
- Accessibility
- Voluntary engagement
- Who?
- How?
- true empowerment?
- exclusivity
- protection of security and privacy → complicated procedures
- health care: not voluntary



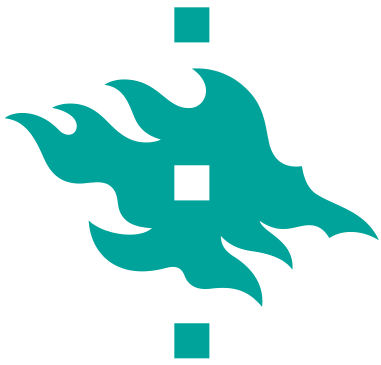
Ethical principles in ICT environment





Doing good

- Information to patient faster;
- Patients can make choices by themselves
- does information empower patients?
- flood of information, beneficial or not, even harmful
- does the use of ICT prevent the health care professional to meet patients' needs



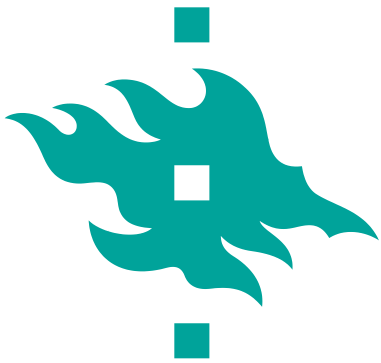
Avoiding harm

- Breach of privacy
- Information leading to wrong direction?
- Often immaturely developed programs that steal time from doctor-patient interaction
- Programs are also vulnerable
- Do computer replace health care professionals?



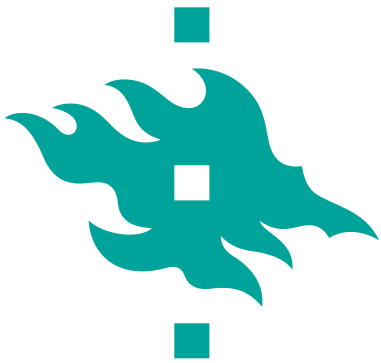
Respect of Autonomy

- whose autonomy?
- does the information flood increase knowledge and understanding or diminish it?
- autonomy or abandonment?



Justice

- Do people have equal access to ICT?
 - increasing inequality
 - priority on technology – what is posterioritized
-
- **Maximizing benefits**
 - but whose benefits



ICT, ethics and law

- protection of privacy regulated by national laws and international regulations (EU, CoE)
- personal health care data is sensitive personal information that has to be kept secret
- data protection may prevent also access to beneficial data

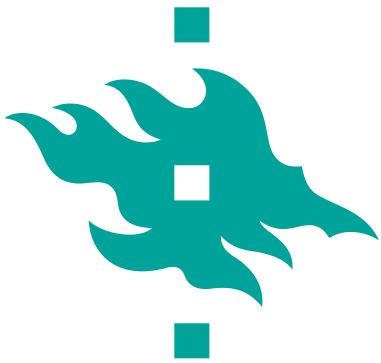


Regulations:

International conventions

- Convention on Biomedicine (CETS 164) and its additional protocol on biomedical research (CETS 195)
- Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data (ETS 108)
- <http://conventions.coe.int>
- EU Directive on Personal Data Protection 95/46/EC
- Directive on e-privacy 2002/58/EU
- Legislation
 - Constitution of Finland
 - Act on Status and Rights of Patients, Personal data Act
 - www.finlex.fi/fi

Norms, recommendations, declarations



Teaching ethics

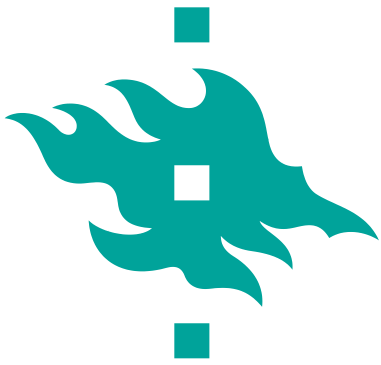
- Are there specific ethical principles in the field of ICT?
- how do these principles show up in everyday life and medicine/dentistry and patient care?





Use of ICT in teaching of ethics

- collection of background information
 - group learning
 - enables distant learning
 - learning between group discussions
-
- does not replace discussion, interaction and practicing the interaction skills



ICT and ethical issues

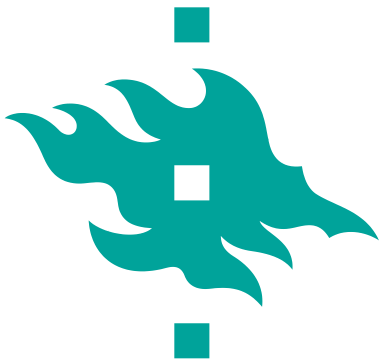
- protection of privacy
- focus on persons, not technology
- Care of persons, their health and welfare, both patients and doctors themselves
- Awareness of risks





How to teach ethics on health and ICT?

- Classical ways of teaching/ learning ethics: discussions, narratives, cases:
- Including ethical principles and how they can be seen in the context; cultural, societal and global aspects
- Right to know and not to know;
- Principles behind regulations
- How to become a good doctor/dentist/nurse



Teaching of Ethics to health care professionals

- ethical principals give structures to weigh good and evil, benefits and harms, respect persons views (e.g. right not to know) and gives tools to make better informed, and more rationally justifiable decisions in a context where there are not only one solution, and where there are morally hard choices to be made in their professional life

A scenic photograph of a mountain trail. The foreground is dominated by a large, craggy rock formation on the left. A wooden boardwalk made of two parallel planks leads from the bottom right towards the center of the image. The background features a valley with several tall evergreen trees and a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The word "Thanks" is written in a white, cursive font across the upper middle part of the image.

Thanks