

Fortnightly Digest by



Digest 54



Warm greetings!

We are pleased to bring you this fortnightly digest from the Health, Ethics and Law Institute (HEaL Institute) and the *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics* (IJME).

Newsletter Spotlight 1

[The Right to Health: A fundamental human right](#)

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RAJASTHAN RIGHT TO HEALTH ACT: PROMISING BOOST TO PUBLIC HEALTHCARE

Abuse with impunity in sports

SC vaccine mandates judgment: A balancing act

Conflict of interest policies in Nepalese healthcare journals

Book Review: Quarantine travelogue

The *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics* brings to you the [second issue of the year](#). With the aim of providing equal access to quality healthcare without catastrophic out-of-pocket expenditure for all residents of the State, Rajasthan has become the first Indian state to enact a Right to Health Act. An editorial in this issue analyses various aspects of this Act as also the opposition of private sector doctors, who demanded its complete withdrawal.

With the increasing use of Artificial Intelligence in medical science, another editorial discusses the ethical consequences of an artificial author such as ChatGPT being included in citation databases.

A study seeks to demonstrate how the inclusion of a theoretical perspective produces better quality public health and epidemiological research. A comment discusses the need for regulations and ethical codes to protect athletes from abuse in sports, while another scrutinises the vaccine mandate judgment of the Supreme Court asserting the importance of the right to privacy.

An author describes the painful dilemma of a person with gynaecomastia and its resolution, while a medical student — who has to balance clinical responsibilities, studies and social life — reflects on life as a medical intern.

We mourn the loss of Dr Vasantha Muthuswamy, who was a good friend of *IJME*, a member of its editorial board, and a pioneering Indian bioethicist.

Newsletter Spotlight 2

Legalising same-sex marriage

The legalisation of same-sex marriage in India is currently being discussed in the Supreme Court of India as a number of LGBTQIA+ partners approached the Supreme Court with a petition to legalise their marriage, which is being strongly opposed by the Government and the religious leaders. The plaintiffs in the case argue that they are being discriminated against by being denied the same legal rights as straight couples.

We bring to you select news articles on this issue.

[My same-sex marriage violates no scripture — talk to my mother](#) | Satchit Balsari | The Indian Express | May 5, 2023

[Same-sex marriages don't threaten the family unit; they strengthen it](#) | Kaif Siddiqui, Shifa Qureshi | ThePrint | May 2, 2023

[On same-sex marriage: Some of us don't want to marry: Vivek Divan writes: The Supreme Court has an opportunity to frame a ruling that addresses queer realities in all their vulnerabilities](#) | Vivek Divan | The Indian Express | April 24, 2023

[Pseudoscience Cannot Mask the Prejudice of Ex-Judges Opposing Same-Sex Marriage](#) | Sayantan Datta | Science The Wire | April 15, 2023

Online First from *IJME*

Dhaliwal, U. (2023). [A lyrical account of living with Lupus](#). *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, May 3, 2023

Ramanathan, M., Kochuvilayil, A. (2023). [Methodological challenges in studying the chronically ill elderly: Ethical need to include caregivers](#). *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, May 6, 2023

Announcement from the local and global peer community

Concluded conferences and webinar

[Me, myself and A.I.: How interacting with Artificial Intelligence affects employees' expectations of, and attitudes towards, the role of A.I.](#) | JCB Bioethics Seminar Series 2022-23

[Scholarly Communication in Crisis: Research Integrity and Open Scholarship](#) | OASPA

Publications (academic and popular press) on bioethics, human rights, law and allied themes

Academic and popular press

[Cascading failures in COVID-19 vaccine equity: Ethical analysis should encompass upstream decisions and their downstream consequences](#) | Janes V. Lavery, Rachael M. Porter, and David G. Addiss | *Science* | May 4, 2023

[Rajasthan's Right to Health Act: The Way Forward and Some Hitches](#) | V R Raman | *The AIDEM* | April 26, 2023

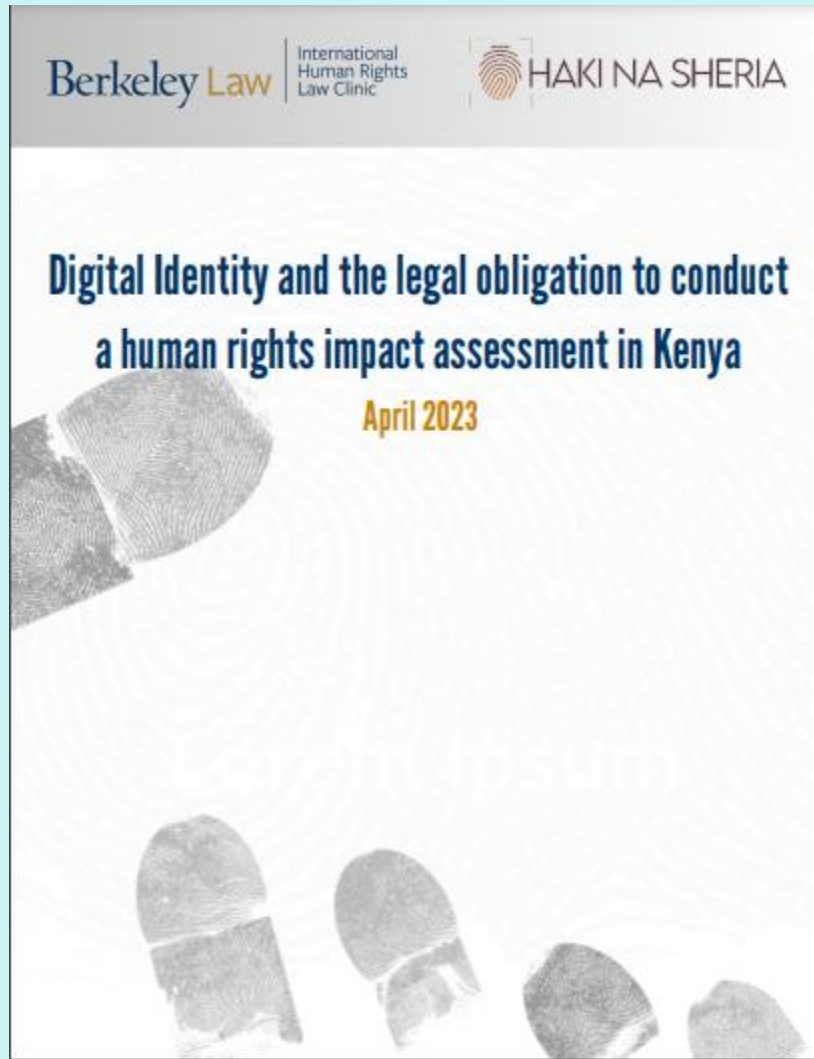
[Testing, testing, testing](#) | Sanjay Nagral | *Hindustan Times* | April 24, 2023

[A right step towards health for all](#) | Edward Premdas Pinto | *Deccan Herald* | April 23, 2023

[Theocracy Is Closer Than It Appears](#) | Kiarash Aramesh | *The Hastings Center* | April 20, 2023

[The right and wrong of Right to Health](#) | Sanjay Nagral | *Hindustan Times* | April 10, 2023

Reports and Guidelines



[Digital Identity and the legal obligation to conduct a human rights impact assessment in Kenya](#) | Berkeley Law, International Human Rights Law Clinic, Haki Na Sheria | April 2023

Call for Applications

[Master of Health Research Ethics \(MOHRE\) Programme](#) | Berman Institute of Bioethics, Johns Hopkins University (USA) and Universiti Malaya with the support of the Fogarty International Centre of the United States National Institutes of Health | Deadline: August 31, 2023.

[GFBR on 'Ethics of health research priority setting'](#) | The Global Forum on Bioethics in Research (GFBR) | Deadline: May 15, 2023 | 17.00 CET

Video / Podcast

[राजस्थान सरकारचा "आरोग्य-हक्क कायदा"](#) | Arogya Sathi, Pune

Capacity strengthening in bioethics and its sub-fields: Enquires for short-duration intensive training program

Please write to us on fmesmumbai@gmail.com and admin@fmesinstitute.org with your enquiries for customized short-duration intensive training program in various sub-fields of bioethics. For over two decades, we have been organizing training program in bioethics sub-fields, amongst others, research ethics in social science research in health; public health ethics; clinical ethics, research ethics in public health research; implementation science and ethics, research ethics in mental health interventions; research ethics and digital technology-based health interventions; ethics of program monitoring and evaluations; and research ethics in research involving adolescents and children.

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