

STEM CELLS: ETHICAL ASPECT

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Introduction. Bioethics is an area of interdisciplinary research of ethical, philosophical and anthropological problems that arise in connection with a progress of biomedical science and introduction of the latest technologies into the practice of health care system. The development of bioethics is due to the fact that medicine is under the influence of civilization transformations. It changes not only in technological equipment, but also becomes more sensitive to legal and ethical aspects of treatment. Ethical principles for new medicine, although not completely abolished, but radically transform the basic provisions of the “Oath of Hippocrates”, which is a standard of medical moral consciousness for centuries.

Aim. Ethical aspects of the use of stem cells in medical practice.

Materials and methods. Theoretical analysis of research and Internet resources; analysis of statistical data, generalization, induction and deduction, hypothetical, historical and logical methods.

Results and discussion. In the late 20th century was marked by a number of achievements in molecular and cellular biology opened up broad prospects for the creation of fundamentally new and effective biomedical technologies, which would enable to solve the problem of treatment of some of the most serious human diseases. The technology of stem cells is Pandora’s original box that hides many secrets of life, but what is the price of such discoveries? According to scientific aspect the application of this technology seems to be limitless, but ethical norms already present barriers to its development. The attitude of the scientists to the replacement or regeneration of failed organs using stem cells is very ambiguous: some are with a great hope, others treat it with suspicion. Before the methods of therapy based on the use of stem cells will enter into medical practice, it will have to overcome many obstacles both scientific and socio-political. It is necessary to analyze a problem of stem cells use from scientific, ethical and legal points of view. The expression “incomplete knowledge is worse than complete ignorance” is the most relevant in biotechnology, where it is particularly necessary to understand the issue before pronouncing “pro” and “contra”.

When using embryonic tissues and organs, the interests of not only the patient but also the embryo tissue donor and the embryo are disturbed. The use of embryonic tissues is associated with a painful social problem, such as permission for abortion. It can’t be assumed that the treatment of embryonic tissues or its research has somehow influenced the frequency of abortions and the desire of women to abort because of lack of money or some external reasons. In addition, it is necessary to protect the right of the embryo to life and to exclude the possibility of creating human embryos for the purpose of their use for the needs of science or medicine.

Conclusions. The ethical principles used in genetics, embryology and transplantation should protect rights of subjects of biomedical research in order to prevent the abuse of biology and medicine advances that could threaten dignity and human rights. At the same time it creates artificial obstacles to scientific progress, which can undermine the hope for the recovery of millions of incurably sick people, and the biological science of depriving valuable knowledge.

AIDS AS A BIOETHICAL PROBLEM

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Introduction. Only a few concepts in the history of philosophy were revised so often as a concept of “nature”. Theoretical philosophy started in Ancient Greece in VI BC with the clarification of what is nature. Nature is a normative concept, but its origin is not in the natural existence of man, but due to freedom and responsibility and possibility of its violation we can consider nature according to a normative aspect.

The emergence and spread of AIDS makes it actual to clarify what is “life according to nature” and what is “life contrary to nature”.

Aim. The aim is to research such problems as: 1) AIDS and a problem of guilt; 2) AIDS and nature; 3) AIDS and morality; 4) AIDS and political responsibility.

Materials and methods. The research is based on holism as a “philosophy of wholeness”, where the whole synthesizes objective and subjective ones.

Results and discussion.

1. The answer to a question about guilt for infection by AIDS can be threefold:

a) a virus and a “monkey” Rh-factor; b) actions of a person (a drug addict, a prostitute, a homosexual, an Afro-American, a doctor who has saved AIDS-infected blood) responsible for AIDS; c) AIDS is a punishment of God for a long time human actions have been directed against his own nature.

2. Problem of AIDS and nature is based on the fact that human nature is dual: it is both natural and spiritually free being. All needs are given to a person, but he can become a man only with education. Unlike animals, a person must learn how to manage his needs. Sociological and psychological studies by Erich Fromm showed that men and women, who dedicate their lives to satisfaction of sexual desires, often suffer because of neuroses and feel completely unhappy. The dignity of man is in the management of his needs, in relation to the sphere of freedom expressed in a choice of ways of goal realization and in a choice of his own goals.

3. Ratio of AIDS and morality is based on the fact that state and church tried to use a danger of infection by AIDS as a cause for restoring conservative and repressive morality. But the best way is to create a system of social solidarity of humanistic character. This system should include the following four groups: 1) solidarity of healthy people excluding contemptuous-discriminatory attitude towards other groups; these groups should be given an assistance: intensive medical check-up, enlightenment and moral support of other solidarity groups, self-criticism of sexual morality; 2) solidarity of potentially infected people. They must voluntarily pass the AIDS test, thereby clarifying their own life plans; 3) solidarity of the infected people, assuming their responsible actions (primarily in sexual relations), excluding the possibility of transmission of the disease; 4) patients are offered not only solidarity, but also sympathy and consolation. The requirement of solidarity is a moral responsibility.

4. The goal of policy in the problem of AIDS is to protect healthy people and to help infected and sick people. It is necessary to carry out a number of activities, given that AIDS is a pandemic-scale epidemic, and there is no vaccine or medicines against it. These activities include: 1) information about AIDS without moralizing and contempt for the infected; 2) accessible anonymous testing; 3) testing of all risk groups and if it is possible the entire population; in the case of a positive results to AIDS – a state ban on certain types of behavior (drug addiction, etc.); 4) in case of its violation or conscious transmission of the virus – punishment in the form of isolation; 5) testing for AIDS of work migrants.

Conclusions. However there are no legislative measures that would protect from AIDS. Relation to AIDS is connected with conditions of the whole society, where hatred, panic and doubt are intertwined with reason, solidarity and respect for human dignity.

MACROECONOMIC ASPECTS OF MONEY MARKET RESEARCH

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Introduction. In the conditions of market transformations of the Ukrainian economy, the achievement of socio-economic stabilization of society becomes very important, which is impossible to imagine without the existence of an efficient money market, since the mechanism of its functioning is a connecting chain between all economic actors of the market system, which ensures the sustainability of reproduction in a market economy and stimulates the development of production. Today in the domestic