Medical technologies and ethics: CASE WEEKS THEME: INFERTILITY Block 3.3: life cycle [2016-17]

Medical Ethics Committee
Hypothetical Case Scenario 1

Mr Khalid, 32 years Saudi male got married to Somina, a 26 years Saudi female, three years back. They didn’t have child in these 3 years. Khalid’s relative advises a second marriage. During a medical visit after his recent accident, he came to know that he is impotent but he is fertile. The couple decided to take help of Medical technology but are anxious about whether it is allowed or not?

They visited you. Can you help them out?
Assisted Reproductive Techniques

- Induction of Ovulation
- Artificial Insemination
  - Semen from husband
  - Donor
- Invitro Fertilization
- Intra-Cytoplasmic Sperm Injection
- Surrogacy or Surrogate motherhood
STEPS IN ETHICS PROBLEM SOLVING

1. Determine the ethical issue/dilemma
2. Identify involved principles
3. Rank the principles with relevance
4. Develop an action plan
5. Implement your plan
6. Reflect on outcome
DETERMINE

whether there is an ethical issue or/and dilemma

Note: Is there a conflict of values, or rights, or professional responsibilities
Key Ethical Issues

- Whether allowed or not.
- Benefits Vs Harm
- Consent
- Confidentiality of the disease.
- Capacity to take decision
- Voluntariness
- Violation of couple
- Guidelines of SCFHS
IDENTIFY

What are the key values and principles involved.
Basic Principles: ABCD

1. Autonomy
2. Beneficence: Doing Well
3. Confidentiality
4. Do Not Harm: Non-Maleficence
5. Equality and Fairness: Justice
6. Truth telling
7. Preservation of Life
Important Terms

- Consent
- Capacity
- Disclosure
- Voluntariness

• Note: meanings and limitations
RANK

which values or ethical principles - in your professional judgement - are most relevant to the issue or dilemma.
RANK IN THIS CASE

- Beneficence
- Do-Not Harm
- Consent
- Voluntariness
- Capacity
- Confidentiality
DEVELOP

An action plan that is consistent with the ethical priorities that have been determined as central to the dilemma.
DEVELOP

• Planned Suitable Assisted Reproductive Technique.

1. Have you conferred with clients and colleagues, as appropriate, about the potential risks and consequences of alternative courses of action?

2. Can you support or justify your action plan with the values/principles on which the plan is based?
IMPLEMENT

your plan, utilizing the most appropriate practice skills and competencies
Conduct

• Conduct the ART following all laws and ethics.
• How will you make use of core social work skills such as
  1. sensitive communication,
  2. skilful negotiation, and
  3. cultural competence?
REFLECT

on the outcome of this ethical decision making process.

Note: What are consequences on couple, Professionals, Agencies
Learning questions

• 17) What are the four Characteristics of Medical Technology in a broad sense?
• 18) What two factors contribute to the view that ethical evaluation of medical technologies is often (too little, too late)? Explain.
• 19) What are types of ethical questions can be raised by Medical technology and what are their implications?
• 20) What tree moral dimensions can play a role in reproductive technology? Explain.
• 21) What issues of due care and desirability are relevant in connection with In Vitro Fertilization?
Gender selection. The Islamic Jurisprudence Council of Mecca (The Islamic World League) passed a legal Resolution (Fatwa) in its 19th meeting held in November 2007, and banned gender selection, performed specifically for social reasons. However, it is permitted for medical reasons for example, in case of a confirmed risk of transmission of X linked genetic disorder to the offspring. 28
References:

- [https://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/oepr/steps.asp](https://www.socialworkers.org/pubs/code/oepr/steps.asp)
- Code of Ethics for Healthcare Practitioners, The Saudi Commission for Health Specialties, Department of Medical Education & Postgraduate Studies
THANK YOU
ANY QUESTIONS
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