KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Carlo Leget PhD
Vice-president of the European Association for Palliative Care, full professor of ethics of care and spiritual counselling; endowed professor in ethical and spiritual issues in palliative care, established by the Association of High Care Hospices in the Netherlands.

In the past years Carlo Leget’s main focus has been ethics and spirituality in palliative care. His specializations include palliative care, the ethics of end-of-life questions, the art of living and dying, and spirituality in palliative care. He owes much to thinkers such as Thomas Aquinas and Paul Ricoeur. Carlo’s aim is to make his familiarity with the world of theology and health care useful by building bridges wherever that is needed. In the coming years he will be working on topics such as hope, attention, vulnerability and dignity from a care ethics perspective.

FACULTY

Gert Olthuis PhD
Course coordinator, Assistant professor medical ethics, IQ healthcare, Section Healthcare Ethics, Radboudumc

Evert van Leeuwen PhD
Chair of the section medical ethics, professor of medical ethics, Radboudumc

Wim Dekkers MD, PhD
Associate professor philosophy of medicine, IQ healthcare, Section Healthcare Ethics, Radboudumc

Gerrit Kimsma MD, MPH
General practitioner and philosopher, IQ healthcare, Section Healthcare Ethics, Radboudumc

Norbert Steinkamp PhD
Assistant professor clinical bioethics, IQ healthcare, Section Healthcare Ethics, Radboudumc

Jacqueline van Meurs
Spiritual caretaker/pastor, Department of Spiritual and Pastoral Care, Radboudumc

Jeroen Hasselaar PhD
Assistant Professor in Palliative Care, Department of Anesthesiology, Radboudumc

Kris Vissers MD, PhD
Professor in Pain and Palliative care, Department of Palliative Care, Radboudumc

Dick Willems MD, PhD
Professor of medical ethics, Academic Medical Centre Amsterdam and the University of Amsterdam

Thomas Quartier PhD
Assistant professor, Faculty of Religious Studies, Centre for Thanatology, Radboud University Nijmegen
INTRODUCTION

Course Profile and Objectives

New developments in health care strengthen the promise of a better life for everyone: the potential of a medical utopia. This process influences the way societies and individuals deal with the end of life and with questions regarding the meaning of suffering and death. In the international discussion, an important topic is whether medically hastening death is a proper means to preserve human dignity and quality of life. An important alternative is palliative care, defined by the WHO as the active total care of patients whose disease is not responsive to curative treatment. The question, whether adequate palliative care helps prevent the cry for euthanasia and assisted dying, needs careful investigation.

These questions require thorough conceptual interpretation as well as ethical reflection. Objective of the course is to educate the participants on two main aspects: ethical questions of palliative care and medically assisted death, and philosophical, theological and medical reflections on the concepts of death and suffering. Attitudes towards death and dying, and the ethical aspects of continuing or foregoing medical treatment, and of medically assisted death receive considerable attention in this course. In addition, the dimensions of spirituality, rituals and intercultural diversity are covered.

Course Subjects and Methods

The course consists of a series of lectures, discussions, parallel sessions and audiovisual materials centered around a variety of topics: autonomy and dependence; palliative sedation and euthanasia; spirituality and palliative care; quality of life and a good death; scientific research in palliative care; moral deliberation.

The parallel sessions are devoted to in-depth small group discussions and moral deliberation on different real life cases and particular contemporary issues in the area of end-of-life decisions. Each group will consist of ten to fifteen participants, led by a faculty member.

The diversity among both faculty and participants stimulates fruitful exchange of ideas and enhances understanding of others' professional and cultural perspectives on suffering, death and palliative care. The course language is English.

Organized by: Scientific Institute for Quality of Healthcare, section HEALTHCARE ETHICS, Radboudumc university medical centre
Program

Please note: the program may be subject to change

Tuesday, February 11th, 2014

14:30 - 15:30 Registration
15:30 - 16:00 Welcome and Introduction to the course
16:00 - 17:00 Introduction to palliative care, Kris Vissers
17:00-17:30 Refreshments
17:30 - 18:30 Keynote lecture: Carlo Leget
18:30 - 19:00 Discussion
19:00 - Reception

Wednesday, February 12th, 2014

09:00 - 10:00 Autonomy and Dependence, Gert Olthuis
10:00 - 10:15 Refreshments
10:15 - 11:30 Parallel session: Autonomy and beneficence in terminal illness
11:30 - 11:45 Refreshments
11:45 - 12:45 Suffering, Evert van Leeuwen
12:45 - 14:00 Lunch
14:00 - 15:15 Scientific research in palliative care: ethical issues
15:15 - 15:30 Refreshments
15:30 – 18:00 Film: 'Wit' and reflections on the film
18:00 - 19:00 Reception
19:00 - Course dinner

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Thursday, February 13th, 2014

09:00 - 10:00  Euthanasia: arguments pro and contra, Norbert Steinkamp
10:00 - 10:15  Refreshments
10:15 – 12:00  Film: 'Death on Request' and reflections on the film
12:00 - 12:15  Refreshments
12:15 - 13:15  Palliative sedation, Jeroen Hasselaar
13:15 - 14:00  Lunch
14:00 - 15:15  Suffering and medical friendship, Gerrit Kimsma
15:15 - 15:30  Refreshments
15:30 - 16:00  Presentation of the Nijmegen Method of Ethical Deliberation, Norbert Steinkamp
16:00 - 17:00  Parallel sessions: case discussion using the Nijmegen method of ethical deliberation
17:00 - 17:30  Plenary session

Friday, February 14th, 2014

09:00 – 10:00  Quality of life and a good death in palliative care, Wim Dekkers
10:00 - 10:15  Refreshments
10:15 - 11:15  Case discussion: in search of a good death
11:15 - 11:45  Plenary session
11:45 - 12:00  Refreshments
12:00 - 13:00  Spirituality and palliative care, Jacqueline van Meurs
13:00 - 14:00  Lunch
14:00 - 14:30  Introduction to rituals regarding death and suffering, Thomas Quartier
14:30 - 16:00  Interactive plenary session death, spirituality and rituals
16:00 - 16:30  Evaluation of the course
16:30 - 17:30  Farewell reception

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PARTICIPANTS

The course is of interest to participants from diverse professional backgrounds, such as nursing, medicine, health care administration, ethics, philosophy, theology and pastoral care, and PhD students undertaking courses of study in these areas.

All participants will receive a syllabus with introductory readings prior to the course. Since the program schedule is strict, participants are expressly advised to prepare by studying these materials in advance. Lecturers will assume acquaintance with these basic readings.

At the conclusion of the course, all participants will receive a certificate. Participants are reminded that they may be eligible for continuing education credit hours through their professional association. Accreditation from the KNMG (Dutch Medical Association) and the SKGV (Dutch register for Chaplains) will be applied for. Please contact the program coordinators for further details (see information).

SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE FOR QUALITY OF HEALTHCARE

IQ healthcare is an international centre of excellence for research, education and support in the field of quality, safety and innovation in healthcare. IQ healthcare contributes to effective, safe, patient centered and ethically sound patient care. For more information: www.iqhealthcare.nl/en/.

The section of Healthcare Ethics is in charge of the ethics teaching in the faculties of medicine, dentistry and biomedical sciences at the Radboud University Nijmegen, facilitates the ethical case deliberations on the ward and is involved in several committees in the Radboudumc university medical centre. Besides these activities the section of Healthcare ethics also organizes the following post-academic teaching programmes: Human Genomics and Medical Technology, the ‘Ethics of dementia care’ lecture series, the recently awarded Dutch Postgraduate professional training course ‘Ethics in Health Care’ and ‘Ethics in a General Practice’, and Prudentia-conferences.

Research lines focus on Ethics of palliative care, Ethics in, and ethics of care institutions, Ethics of innovation and technology and Ethics of medical decision making.

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ERASMUS MUNDUS

This course is part of the post initial Erasmus Mundus Master of Bioethics Program, a one-year master program for a group of international students from European and non-European countries. This program is organized by the Universities of Leuven (Belgium), Nijmegen (the Netherlands) and Padova (Italy). Because of this combination, participants of the course Suffering, Death and Palliative Care will be part of a diverse, international audience, which adds to the discussions in a unique way.

COURSE FEES and PAYMENTS

The course fee is € (Euro) 690 for early registration before or on December 15th 2013, € (Euro) 790 for registration from December 16th onwards. This price includes tuition and course materials, as well as refreshments, three lunches and a dinner. Fees are non-refundable if applicants cancel after January 26th, 2014.

If notification of cancellation has been received after January 5th, 2014 but prior to or on January 26th, 2014 all fees, except for a banking and administrative fee of € 91, will be reimbursed.

Detailed information on registration can be found at our website: www.masterbioethics.org under intensive courses. After registration you will be contacted with further information on payment.
INFORMATION

For more information and registration please consult our website: www.masterbioethics.org under intensive courses or contact:

Simone Naber, e-mail: simone.naber@radboudumc.nl, course management

Gert Olthuis PhD, email: Gert.Olthuis@radboudumc.nl, academic coordinator

114 IQ healthcare, Section Healthcare ethics
Radboudumc University Medical Centre
PO Box 9101, 6500 HB Nijmegen, the Netherlands
Tel.: +31 (0) 24 - 361 33 59    Fax: +31 (0) 24 - 354 02 54

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