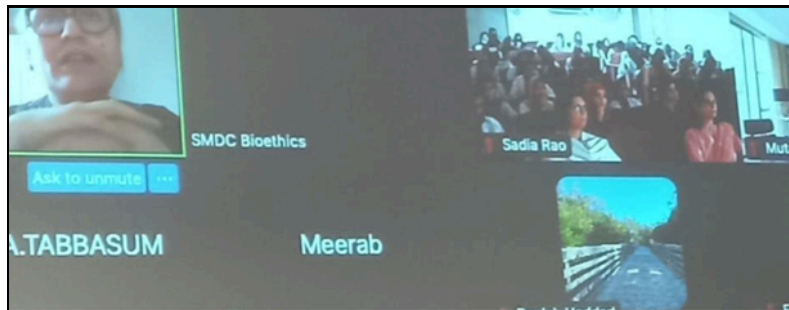


BIOETHICS NEWSLETTER

Bioethics Department of Shalamar Medical & Dental College

Conference & Workshop

Pre-Conference Workshop was organized on 17th April by the Bioethics Department for the 9th International Conference on topic, *“Ethics in Communication: Navigating Difficult Choices Through Dialogue”*, led by Dr. Syed Adeel Hussain Gardezi



Dr Sarosh conducted workshop session for PGs/HOs on topic *“Confidentiality and Professional Boundaries”* on April 18th, 2024. Another workshop was conducted for Physiotherapy Department on the topic “Confidentiality in Clinical Practice.”



- Bioethics session conducted for the 9th International Conference on theme *“Bioethics in Practice: Navigating Morality in Clinical Decisions”*
- The session was chaired by Dr. Aisha, Associate Tutor at Warwick Medical School, and featured a virtual talk by Dr. Mutaz, Associate Professor at Hamad Bin Khalifa University, on the topic *“Consult Your Heart in Moral Decision-Making.”*
- Dr. Sarosh delivered a presentation titled *“(Ir)Religious Bioethics and Metaphysical Harm: Reconsidering the Role of Religion in Clinical Decision-Making”*
- Dr. Ameer Hamza presented on *“Ethical Responsibility of Healthcare Professionals: Where Does the Buck Stop?”*



Student Research Scholar (SRS) Program

Bioethics Department initiative—**SRS Program**—designed to support students who are just beginning their journey into research. It offers students a structured, hands-on experience on how to conduct research ethically and responsibly. This program empowers students with opportunity to transform into capable researchers.



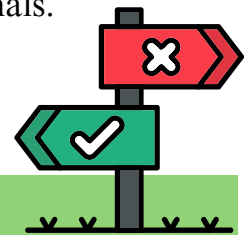
Hospital Ethics Committee (HEC)

Ethics Training

As per the recommendations of HEC members, structured ethics training for interns and residents has been initiated. The Bioethics Department hosted two Physiotherapy house officers from 21st to 25th April, 2025 for a dedicated ethics training program. This marks the beginning of regular training sessions aimed at enhancing ethical awareness among healthcare professionals.

Ethics Grand Rounds

The Hospital Ethics Committee successfully organized two Ethics Grand Rounds.



12th Grand Ethics Round was held on 6th March 2025. The session focused on the Case of Brain Death and was presented by Ms. Samina Kouser and Mr. Adnan from the Nursing Department, with Dr. Shazia Rasul serving as the facilitator. The discussion provided valuable insights into the ethical challenges surrounding the diagnosis and management of brain death in clinical settings.

13th Grand Ethics Round took place on 29th April 2025. This session featured A Case of Acute Abdomen with Renal Failure, presented by Dr. Sarwat from the Medicine Department and facilitated by Dr. Shazia Rasul. Both sessions saw active participation and engagement from faculty, residents, and nursing staff.

PBG Meetings

The Bioethics Department regularly hosts Professional Bioethics Group (PBG) meetings every alternate month, providing a platform for in-depth discussions on critical issues in healthcare ethics and formulating recommendations for ethical improvement in clinical practice.

- The **24th PBG Meeting** was held on 3rd January 2025, featuring two engaging presentations: *The Use of Pig Organs for Human Transplants* by Amna Farooq and *A Case of Hypogonadism* presented by Dr. Hafeeza Naz.
- The **25th PBG Meeting** followed on 7th March 2025, where Ms. Asfiya Aziz presented *The Last Word: Human Authorship in the Age of AI, exploring the ethical implications of AI-generated content in healthcare*. Second presentation was by Dr. Ameer Hamza's case discussion on *The Dangers of Arrogance, Ignorance, and Negligence*.
- The **26th PBG Meeting** took place on 2nd May 2025, focusing on the topic *Right to Conceive – Women at a Disadvantage*, presented by Dr. Jamshed Akhtar.

Faculty Spotlight

Pakistan's first PhD in Health Care Ethics

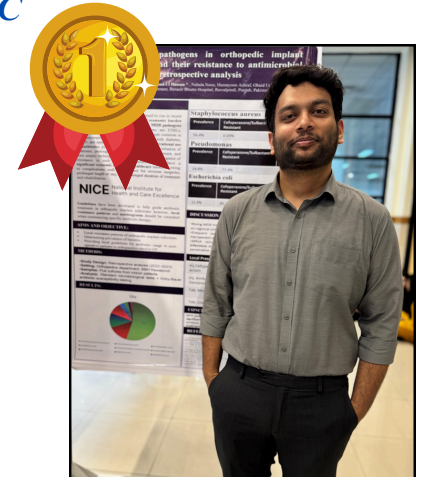
Dr. Sarosh Saleem, Head of Bioethics department has completed her PhD in Health Care Ethics from Saint Louis University. In May 2025, she was awarded her degree after successfully defending her dissertation with distinction! Her dissertation, *“Between Guidelines and On-Ground Realities: Reimagining Clinical Ethics Consultation in Pakistan,”* explores ways to bridge the gap between formal ethical guidelines and the complex realities of clinical practice in our local context.



“The presence of the only professional in Pakistan holding a doctoral degree in Health Care Ethics, alongside the country's largest and sole dedicated medical school-based Bioethics department and faculty, is a testament to the institution's commitment to ethical leadership, academic excellence and patient care” - Prof. Dr. Zahid Bashir, Principal SMDC

Research Excellence - Posters Presentation

Poster presented by Dr Ameer Hamza at an international conference highlighted antibiotic resistance in orthopaedic implant infections. The project won **Best Poster Award** on 9th International Conference of SMDC and later published in a high-impact journal by Elsevier, gaining both national and international recognition.

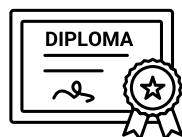


JOIN!

DIPLOMA IN HEALTHCARE ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM 2025

Join the Diploma in Healthcare Ethics & Professionalism—a collaborative program by the Bioethics Department of Shalamar Medical & Dental College and the LUMS Learning Institute (LLI). Gain essential skills to navigate the ethical challenges in healthcare practice.

Deadline: July 18, 2025



Register Now



ADVANCE YOUR CAREER AND MASTER HEALTHCARE ETHICS 2025-2026

Join the Diploma in Healthcare Ethics & Professionalism—a collaborative program by the Bioethics Department of Shalamar Medical & Dental College and the LUMS Learning Institute (LLI). Gain essential skills to navigate the ethical challenges in healthcare practice.

Duration: One Year

Application Deadline: 18th July 2025

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

- All Healthcare Professionals: Doctors, Nurses, Allied Health Professionals, Researchers, Administrators, IRB & Ethics Committee Members
- Blended Learning Program Designed for Busy Professionals

For Registration
<https://smdc.edu.pk/dhep/>

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For upcoming events, publications, and opportunities, reach out to bioethics.smdc@gmail.com