



**Teheran University of Medical Sciences  
School of Medicine**

**Title:**

**Ethical issues of family medicine program and prepare a preliminary version of ethical guideline for family medicine program in iran**

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In  
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## **Abstract**

### **Ethical issues of family medicine program and prepare a preliminary version of ethical guideline for family medicine program in Iran**

**Introduction:** The general goal of medicine is to preserve, promote and restore human health. Family medicine is a type of holistic, comprehensive and health-oriented medicine in which family doctors consider the human being with all its physiological, psychological, social, environmental and existential dimensions and when setting up the health management plans of the patients, they consider the whole person. They focus not on a biochemical pathway, system, organ, age, sex, or time period. Due to the fact that the practice of family medicine is different from other modern medical fields, the ethical act of the daily work of family medicine is also different from the ethical behavior in many other fields of medicine and emphasizes different strengths and values. Our country has been implementing the family medicine plan for more than 18 years, and in the not-so-distant future, it is going to cover the whole country, in which case, its moral issues will also be widespread, this study considers In addition to defining the concept, values, principles and approach of family medicine in detail and stating the different types and forms of its implementation, it is investigating and analyzing the ethical considerations raised in the family doctor program and presenting a draft of the ethical guide for this program in Iran.

**Methodology:** The present study is a comprehensive research aimed at examining the ethical considerations of the family doctor program and presenting a draft of the ethical guide for the family doctor program in Iran, which consists of three stages. The first stage is a multi-part library study that was conducted to determine the ethical issues of family medicine by searching in articles, books, curricula, ethical guides and other relevant texts of the world and Iran. The second stage is a three-part qualitative study, which was conducted in the form of in-depth interviews with service recipients (patients), service providers (doctors) and policy makers and family medicine program implementers in Iran, in order to get the views of these three groups about the program. Family medicine and its ethical issues can be obtained by analyzing the content of the interviews. By comparing and matching the important issues emphasized by the results of the previous two stages, the primary topics of the ethical issues of the family medicine program in Iran were obtained. Formed the final topics of ethical issues of family medicine and its program implementation in Iran. Finally, the draft of the family medicine ethical guide and its program implementation was prepared using these titles.

**Results:** In the comprehensive library studies conducted in various texts, the ethical issues and considerations of family medicine were obtained from the viewpoint of different world experts, while the ethical issues in the text of Iran's family medicine program were also identified and criticized. In qualitative field studies, the causes of ethical problems and ethical issues of Iran's family doctor program from the point of view of service recipients, the characteristics of the cause of occurrence, ethical issues and solutions to correct the problems of Iran's family doctor program from the point of view of family doctors working in the plan, and the causes and obstacles The implementation of the family doctor program was obtained from the perspective of policy makers

and implementers of Iran's family medicine program. After comparing and matching the various information obtained and obtaining the ethical issues of Iran's family medicine program, the primary topics of ethical issues of the field, program and implementation of Iranian family medicine were prepared. In the qualitative study of the group discussion, these topics were subjected to collective criticism by experts in medical ethics and family medicine in Iran, and were modified and finalized. The main topics of ethical issues include professional commitment, relationships, confidentiality and privacy, decision making, Ethical issues related to children and adolescents, ethics in health care economics, medical error, ethical issues at the beginning of life, ethical issues at the end of life, research ethics and cultural issues. And the main topics of the ethical issues of macro-level implementation include policy and management in the implementation of the program, provision of resources and infrastructure in the implementation of the program, and cultural issues in the implementation of the program. The main topics of the ethical issues of its small implementation include the reduction of the motivation of the family medical team, the existing limitations in the implementation of the program, and the inefficiencies in the implementation of the program. Then, the draft ethical guide of Iran's family medicine program was written based on this.

**Conclusion:** The ethical considerations of the family medicine program can be divided into three areas: ethical issues of the field, the ethics of the program and the way of its ethical implementation. All of which were addressed in these studies. But due to the fact that people do not differentiate between the field, the program and the way of its implementation. And only their understanding of the issue will be the criterion of their satisfaction, therefore, in order to plan and correct ethical issues, in addition to the issue itself, attention should also be paid to its scope. So that in some cases, corrections should only be made in the program or processes, but in other places where there is a problem in implementing the program in a specific area. In addition to paying attention to the performer and his performance, the conditions of the performance environment should also be reviewed and revised.

**Keywords:** family medicine; family medicine program; ethics; ethical considerations; Moral criticism.