# Bioethics and Public Awareness in Latin

America

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Pan American Health Organization

### Bioethics: the word

- No term is culturally neutral
- Fritz Jahr (1927) "Bio-Ethik" "bioethischer Imperativ"
- Van Rensselaer Potter (1970) "Bioethics" "Global Ethics" ("Science of survival")
- Hellegers, Callahan (70s) Humanities in medicine

### Bioethics: The meanings

- Relations with nature (Jahr, animals; Potter, environment)
- Health research and care (Kennedy Center, mainstream)
- Beyond monological philosophical ethics
- Multi inter transdisciplinarity
- Tool of survival and understanding (rhetoric, hermeneutics)

### Bioethics: the analysis

- Process (emotive, unreflected social, economic, psychological)
- Procedure (formulation of conflict, justification and application of principles, decision-making)
- Product (academic, political, economic)

### Bioethics: Latin America

An imported concept

Different stages of consolidation

Reception - Assimilation - Reformulation

Different varieties: cultural, feminist, catholic, alternative, etc.,. (polisemic nature of the word allows qualifications)

Social institutions (committees, commissions, courses, academies)

### Bioethics: The role of PAHO

- PAHO created in 1902 (quarantines, trade, economy, public health) *in the Region in which it operates*
- Incorporated to WHO after 1948 as AMRO
- Representatives in each country (38 countries and territories) *plus* Collaborating and Affiliated Centers
- Successes, finished and unfinished agenda
- Regional Program Bioethics in 1994 (agreement with University of Chile and Chilean government)
- Its commitment to WHO SOs, MDGs, Member States priorities

# Health-related ethical dilemmas (examples)

### Macrobioethical and Mesobioethical:

- Environmental ethics
- Social determinants of health
- Inequities in access to healthcare and in healthcare outcomes

### Microbioethical:

- Surveillance and research
- Clinical ethics

# Contribution of PAHO to the challenges posed by ethical dilemmas

- Identification of real issues and dilemmas
- Rational and technical analysis of values, principles, and norms related to health and wellbeing
- Establishment of competent groups of professionals for dealing with the complexities of development
- Proposal of solutions to dilemmas

### **PAHO** Bioethics

- Training and education (Masters programs, undergraduate teaching)
- Research (social representations, state of the art, surveys)
- Dissemination of concepts ("comics" for youth, Acta Bioethica (indexed journal), Newsletters), books, Virtual Library (www.paho.org/bioetica)
- Advocacy for equity and justice. Human dignity and health
- ETHICAL SUSTAINABILITY OF DECISIONS AND POLICIES

### Bioethics: Uses in Latin America

Keep in mind the developmental stages and the deliverables of each stage

- Rhetorical device
- Hermeneutical procedure
- Political tool
- Academic activity
- Economic commodity

# Bioethics in Latin America: the future

- Challenges, risks, opportunities
- Need for responsible scholarship
- Ethics for the bioethics community
- Confusion with other relevant interests
- Dialogue, deliberation, and tolerance
- Associations and partial interests
- "Regulatory poliphony"

### Tasks and Challenges

- Millennium Development Goals
- Strategic Objectives of WHO/PAHO
- "Regulatory poliphony"
- Unethical behavior in bioethics
- Lack of responsible scholarship



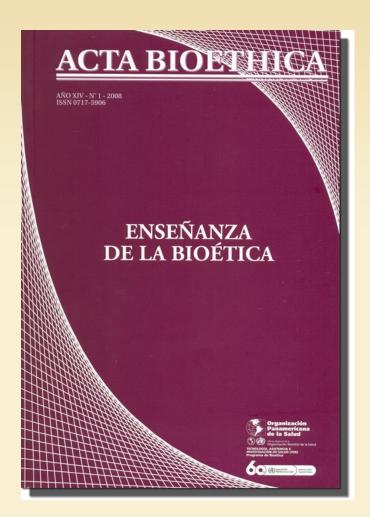


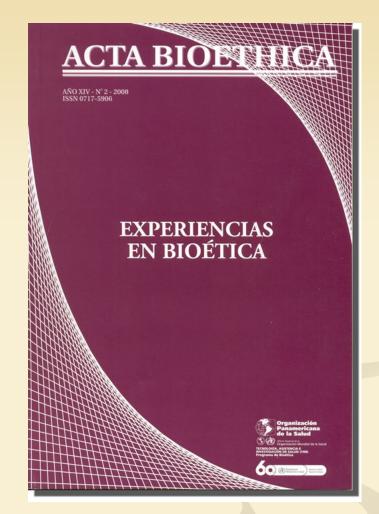














Año XIII Nº 47, diciembre de 2008 ISSN: 0717-6112

#### BIOÉTICA INFORMA

El Programa de Biotica es un organismo técnico de OPSOMS, establecido en Sartingo de Chile en 1994 por convenio entre fa OPS, el Cobierno de Chile y la Universidad de Chile. www.pulo.org/hioetica.

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#### Programa de Bioética

Encuentro Internacional Ética de las Regulaciones en Salud Santiago de Chile 23 - 25 de atril de 2009

www.eticaregulacion.cl



ÉTICA DE LAS REGULACIONES EN SALUD EN LATINOAMÉRICA Y EL CARIBE: ESTADO ACTUAL Y PROVECCIONES

Decleurintalazión—monipute con el Carro Interioripliano, de Estaños en Biotica (CEB) de la Universidad de Chile (Centro Caldenador OMS)—di Programa de Recita OFSOMS ha presentida de acciones en la banaziancida de los servicios astadarios, la presenteción de la tigistada y los direcchos de las personas y los animales en la investigación científica, y la personaio de un competanziante monilarante justificable en la práctica de las perfeciences.

Aunque ha centrado su atención en crear una masa crítica de profesionales familiarizados con la deliberación bioética. también conduce investigaciones y recopila datos esenciales para el desarrollo de las competencias bioéticas en personas e instituciones. Acorde con esto último, el Programa está abora empetado en reunir información sobre los comités de ética asistencial, comités de ética de la investigación y comités de ética de profesionales de la salud, y acerca de regulaciones regionales respecto de estas materias, iniciativa que responde a los lineamientos estratégicos de la Organización Mundial de la Saludy la Organización Panamericana de la Salud, en particular al objetivo 7 (2008-2013) -relazionado con el fundamento ético de las regulaciones en los distintos países para mejorar políticas de salud basadas en los derechos humanos-, que exige recepilar información, ponderar su validar y confabilidad y convertida en directrices apropiadas para la formulación de políticas y normas aplicables en distintos contentos culturales.

Se estableció un número de seis pales priorizarios «Bolivia, Paraguay, l'impaga, Erandor, Il Salvador y Bonduras y se solivia, risti la colaboración de los Representantes y Parties Focales en Bostica de la Organización, de numero que propoccionarsa detos cuantitativos y cualitativos. Il resensor andems caviado a 20 Representaciones en mayo de 2008 delo recluió respuesta desde Bolivia, Leundor, El Salvador, Henduras Peni y Unaguay.

In una segunda comunicación a Representantes y Punte Focales se incluyé adente una nota caplicativa, firmada por el Director del Programa de Biettina, adente de una tabla de recolección de datos para cada tipo de comité. Adente, esplamado necesor facete para obtener caso datos, escotarará también a personas vinculadas con la Biettina en los diversos puéses. Disercas comunicaciones, personales y virtuales, se hon internado con el fin de hacer más complete sota recopilación. No obstante, los datos cumites a la fecha han sido muchos veces incompletes, lo que de algún modo refigia desconocimiento de sea información en las Representaciones, ministerio de solud

Junto con esta labor de recolección de informaciones y su adecuada validación, se considera imprescindible realizar una

y universidades

HEALTH REGULATION ETHICS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIEBEAN: CURRENT STATE AND PROJECTIONS

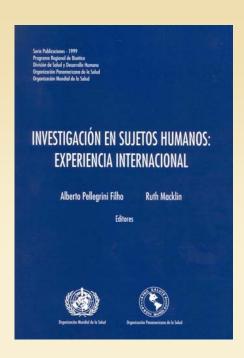
From its installations –in conjunction with the Center for Intendisciplinary Studies in Bioschies (CLB), of the University of Chile (WHO cold-nowing count)—the Bioschies Program OFS OMS has presented actions in the humanization of healthcare services, the presentation of dignity and the rights of persons and of animals in scientific investigation, and has founded morally justified behavior in professional practice.

Although the program has centered its attention on the creation of a critical mass of professionals familiar with bioethics deliberation, it also conducts research and compiles essential data for the development of bioethics competencies in persons and institutions. In agreement with this last goal, the Program has now determined to gather information on healthcare ethics committees, scientific research committees, professional association committees and on regional regulations concerning these matters, an initiative that responds to the strategic alignment of the World Health Organization, objective 7 in particular (2008-2013). This is related to the ethical basis of regulations in different countries as a means to improve healthcare policies based on human rights, and that demands the gathering of information, the weighing of its validity and whability and its conversion into appropriate guidelines for the formation of policies and nome applicable in distinct cultural contexts.

Six priority countries were established -Belivia, Paraguag Uruguay, Ecuador, II Salvador and Hardanna- and the allaboration of the Representatives and Feed Peirse is Biochinof the Organization was requested, in a manner that would provide both quantitative and qualitative data. A memorandorm was sent to twenty Representatives in May 2006 and the only responses movived were from Belivia, Ecuador, II Salvador, Hondrann, Peru and Uruguay.

A second communication was set to Representative and Front Points which also included a note of explanation, signed by the Director of the Biosthira Program, along with a table for the collection of data for each type of committee. In addition, exploring are sources in order to obtain this information, a remainer of persons associated with Biosthira in various countries were contacted. Numerous communications, personal and virtual, have been tried with the ublimate goal of making this compiletion more complete. However, the information gathered to the has been many times incomplete, which sends we effect a lack of haveledge of the information on the part of the Representations, Health Ministers and universities.

Together with this labor of information collection and the revision of its venerity, a technical meeting, considered exsential, open to diverse participants from other regions has









#### ÉTICA E INNOVACIÓN TECNOLÓGICA

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# INVESTIGACIÓN EN SALUD DIMENSIÓN ÉTICA Fernando Lolas Álvaro Quezada Eduardo Rodríguez

## DÉTICA SOCIAL

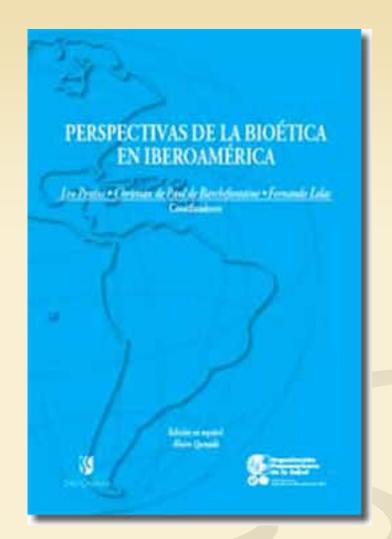
ESTUDIOS DE BIOÉTICA SOCIAL

Nº 1, 2007

### PRIORIDADES EN SALUD Y SALUD INTERCULTURAL

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### Contacts

- http://www.paho.org/bioetica
- http://www.uchile.cl/bioetica
- http://www.actabioethica.cl

Links to Virtual Library (Bioethics)

Acta Bioethica: Full text at SCIELO site