

Practical Ethics

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Dr Mike Devlin is Head of Professional Standards and Liaison at the MDU, having been a medico-legal adviser for over 15 years, latterly as Head of Advisory Services. He is the MDU's Responsible Officer.

He is Vice President (Medico-Legal) of the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine and was a member of its academic committee and was an examiner for the MFFLM until 2014. He is an international editorial board member of the Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine. He was Treasurer of the FFLM from 2011 to 2015.

He has had published many articles on medico-legal matters in various medical journals and papers in UK and Ireland as well as a book chapter. He has a significant amount of experience in teaching and assessing knowledge in medico-legal subjects.

Learning Objectives

- Be able to understand medical ethics in terms of philosophical and practical frameworks
- Recognise that the practical application of ethics can be found in the GMC's Good Medical Practice and its four domains
- Understand that there can be a distinction between medical law and ethics and the importance of adhering to both
- Be familiar with specific areas relevant to forensic physicians:
 - Consent in the forensic setting
 - Confidentiality in the forensic setting and dual responsibility
 - Deaths in custody or shortly after assessment
 - Professionalism
 - Obligations of a professional witness

