Reproductive Ethics

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This session will examine common ethical dilemmas in reproductive medicine and provide systematic ways to evaluate alternatives.

Objectives:

Knowledge:
1. Name several sources of guidance for ethical dilemmas in medicine, e.g., AMA, ACOG practice guidelines and codes of ethics, Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services, Jewish Responsa, journal articles, ethics texts.
2. Describe the services available from providers such as genetic counselors and chaplains and explain how they can assist in ethical decision-making.
3. Identify at least three medical professionals whose judgment you respect and who could serve as sounding boards if you needed to “talk through” a medical dilemma.

Attitude:
5. Acknowledge the provider’s right to abstain from participating in medical interventions to which he or she is morally opposed.
6. Acknowledge the provider’s legal and moral obligation to apprise the patient of all legal and medically appropriate options (even the ones to which the provider is opposed).

Skill:
7. Apply the Jonson Box analysis to an ethically challenging case and offer a well reasoned, ethically defensible resolution to the dilemma.
8. Correctly interpret a hospital policy or protocol concerning an ethically challenging area of practice and state the duties of the physician as described in the policy or protocol.