Law and Ethics in Dentistry

1. IMPRINT

Academic Year	2026/2027
Department	Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
Field of study	English Dentistry Division
Main scientific discipline	Medical sciences
Study Profile	General academic
Level of studies	Uniform MSc
Form of studies	Full time studies
Type of module / course	Compulsory
Form of verification of learning outcomes	Completion
Educational Unit / Educational Units	Studium Etyki i Prawa Medycznego Ul. Litewska 14/16 00-581 Warszawa Tel. 22 116 92 34 e-mail: zaklad-bioetyki@wum.edu.pl
Head of Educational Unit / Heads of Educational Units	Professor Tomasz Pasierski, MD, PhD in medical sciences
Course coordinator	Professor Tomasz Pasierski, MD, PhD in medical sciences; tomasz.pasierski@wum.edu.pl
Person responsible for syllabus	Weronika Chańska, PhD; weronika.chanska@wum.edu.pl
Teachers	

2. BASIC INFORMATION

Year and semester of studies	1st year, 2nd semester	**Number of ECTS credits**	1.00

FORMS OF CLASSES **Contacting hours with academic teacher**	**Number of hours**	**ECTS credits calculation**
Lecture (L)	5	0,25
Seminar (S)	5	0,25
Classes (C)		
e-learning (e-L)		
Practical classes (PC)		
Work placement (WP)		
Unassisted student's work		
Preparation for classes and completions	10	0,5

3. COURSE OBJECTIVES

O1	A student respects the rights of the patient, including: the right to protection of personal data, the right to intimacy, the right to respect for dignity, the right to information about the state of health, the right to confidentiality of information related to the patient, the right to give informed consent to treatment or to withdraw from treatment, the right to health services, the right to report an adverse drug reaction, and the right to die with dignity.
O2	A student is aware of the legal basis for practicing the medical profession in Poland
O3	A student aware of the legal basis of professional responsibility in Poland

4. STANDARDS OF LEARNING – DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EFFECTS OF LEARNING

Code and number of the effect of learning in accordance with standards of learning	**Effects in the field of:** *(in accordance with appendix to the Regulation of Minister of Science and Higher education from 26th of July 2019)*
Knowledge – Graduate* knows and understands:	
D.W1.	the notions of health and disease, the impact of the social environment (family, social networks), as well as socio-cultural circumstances (background, social status, faith, nationality, ethnic group) on the patient's health;

D.W3.	forms of violence, including domestic violence, social determinants of different forms of violence, and the role of a dental surgeon in its recognition, as well as the principles of conduct in the event of suspecting violence, taking into account the "Blue Card" procedure;
G.W15.	principles of medical ethics and deontology, ethical problems of contemporary medicine resulting from the dynamic development of science and biomedical technologies, as well as the principles of ethical conduct of a dentist;
G.W18.	basic patient rights, including the right to: consent to a medical procedure, medical information, respect for intimacy and personal dignity, medical confidentiality, access to medical records;
G. W21.	the concept and typology of adverse events, including medical errors and medical incidents, their most common causes, consequences, principles of prevention and providing an opinion in such cases;
Skills– Graduate* is able to:	
D.U1.	consider the patient's subjective needs and expectations arising from socio-cultural conditions in the therapeutic process;
G.U16.	respect the patient's rights;

** In appendix to the Regulation of Minister of Science and Higher education from 26th of July 2019 „graduate", not student is mentioned.*

5. ADDITIONAL EFFECTS OF LEARNING *(non-compulsory)*

Number of effect of learning	**Effects in the fields of:**
Knowledge – Graduate knows and understands:	
Skills– Graduate is able to:	
S1	Keeping medical records correctly and in accordance with the law
Social Competencies – Graduate is ready for:	

6. CLASSES

Form of class	**Class contents**	**Effects of Learning**
Lectures	Principles of medical professionalism	D.U1., G.W15., D.W1., G.U16.

	Basic principles of medical ethics	D.U1., G.W15., D.W1., G.U16.
	Legal responsibility and professional liability of dentists	D.U1., G.W15., G.U16.
	Patient autonomy and the standard of informed consent for medical actions	D.U1., G.W15., G.W18., D.W1., G.U16.
	Obtaining consent for medical actions in the case of incompetent patients	D.U1., G.W15., G.W18., G.U16.
	Possibility to undertake treatment without the patient's consent: urgent situations, statutory exceptions	D.U1., G.W15., G.W18., G.U16.
	Medical confidentiality	D.U1., G.W15., G.W18., D.W3., G.U16.
	Refusal of treatment	D.U1., G.W15., G.W18., G.U16.
	Medical errors	D.U1., G.W15., G.W18., G.W21., G.U16, U.1
Seminars	Ability to apply ethical principles and laws to specific cases from clinical practice	DW.3., G.W15., G.W18., GW.21, D.W1., D.U1., G.U16

7. LITERATURE

Obligatory

Brands, W. G., Naidoo, S., Porter, S., Sereny, M., van Dijk, W., & Welie, J. (2018). Dental Ethics Manual 2. (https://www.fdiworlddental.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/fdi-dental_ethics_manual_2.pdf)

Supplementary

Miroslaw Nesterowicz, Ewa Baginska, André den Exter, 'Poland', (2022), pp.1-180 in: Herman Nys (ed.), Tom Goffin (assoc. ed.), International Encyclopedia of Law: Medical Law, Kluwer Law International BV, Netherlands.

8. VERIFYING THE EFFECT OF LEARNING

Code of the course effect of learning	Ways of verifying the effect of learning	Completion criterion
DW.3., G.W15., G.W18., GW.21, D.W1., D.U1., G.U16.	Individual and group tasks carried out during seminars - analysis of clinical cases in terms of the ability to apply the law and professional standards	Evaluation of the correctness of the task (completion/failure)

9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Person responsible for teaching content – Weronika Chańska

To excuse an absence from class, a student is required to notify the course coordinator by email or in writing no later than three business days after the date of the class, assessment, exam, or practicum. Submission of an excuse after this deadline is permitted if the student was unable to submit it for valid reasons; in such cases, the document should be submitted as soon as the reason for the absence ceases to exist.

Course Assessment
In the event of an excused absence from an assessment, the student is entitled to take the assessment on the next date scheduled by the department.

An unexcused absence constitutes grounds for recording a failure for the course on that date. If a student fails to pass the course by the final date set by the department in a given academic year, the student will not receive credit for that course.

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ATTENTION

The final 10 minutes of the last class of the block/semester/year should be allotted for students to fill out the Survey of Evaluation of Classes and Academic Teachers