Instituto de Ética Clínica Francisco Valles

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Type of organisation:			
SME	☐ University ☐ Public Au X NGO ☐	thority	
Fields of action :			
SMEs □ Equal opportunities □	Youth ☐ Universities X F Schools ☐ Unemployed ☐	Public Authorities	
Other (Specify)			

Description of the organisation

The Institute of Clinical Ethics Francisco Vallés is a non-profit organization working on clinical research and bioethics. Among the research areas covered by its team there are: 1) empirical research in bioethics; 2) vocational education training on the field of clinical ethics; 3) clinical ethics consultation. The IECFV is a multidisciplinary group with 18 permanent members coming from medicine, philosophy, psychology, health care policy making and medical humanities linked to different public and private universities located in Madrid, i.e. Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Universidad Europea de Madrid, Universidad Antonio de Nebrija. Most health care professionals involved in the research activities of IECFV are working in public hospitals of the Madrid Region and in health care management services of the Health division of the Madrid City Council. Advisory board of IECFV involves relevant representatives of the public debate around bioethics and medicine in Spain and decision makers of health care services and faculties. The main research interests of the research group at IECFV are clinical ethics and empirical bioethics, several members of the group are involved in Healthcare Ethics Committees and Research Ethics Committees in Madrid and around the country, the team is currently collaborating in research activities in Peru with the University of Arequipa, in Mexico, with the University of Estado de Mexico and in Chile with Universidad Cattolica de Santiago de Chile. The international partnership and a strong interest for empirical research in clinical ethics are the essential features of the the IECFV research group. In addition to the research activities IECFV has an intense public engagement oriented to involve citizenship in the debate about the societal challenges of medicine and biomedical sciences. A plurality of seminars is periodically organized for higher education students and adults to engage them in the debate about the ethical issues produced by technologies, science and their impact on society. Among our initiatives we include the seminars about "Medicine and Ethics" organized at the College of Physicians of Madrid, a VET initiative, the "Ciclo de Cine y Bioetica" (Cycle of movie and bioethics) at the Universidad Complutense for medical students and lecturers. The annual appointment of the "Seminario Internacional de Biomeidicina, Etica y Derechos Humanos (International Seminar on bio-medicine, ethics, and human rights, and other initiatives promoting the public debate about the most important ethical issues between healthcare professionals, philosophers, scientists and citizenship. The IECFV has been involved in the production of two documentaries: "Ser Medico" (Being a doctor) and "Historia de la bioetica" (The History of bioethics). A third documentary about Medical History is currently under production and linked to the project ALCMAEON. The Institute is organized in 5 different working groups: doctor-patient relationship, end-of-life care ethics, narrative ethics, healthcare professionals and well-being and bioethics and bio law. Each working group is involved in research and teaching activities about clinical ethics, research ethics, research integrity, medical humanities, and empirical bioethics. The international vocation of IECFV is an opportunity for scholars and researchers from South American and European countries to spend short term visiting initiative. Several publications related to working groups research activities are periodically developed and thematic books have been edited about relevant topics in the field of clinical ethics. The multidisciplinary experience in lecturing of its member is an opportunity to discuss about the innovation of medical curriculum and to approach alternative teaching methodologies such as object-based learning and transformative learning.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

IECFV has been involved in 3 Erasmus Plus KA203 (MedLang and Softis Ped) as third party and its directors Benjamin Herreros and Emanuele Valenti are coordinating at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid another Erasmus Plus KA203 (ALCMAEON). The research group has been involved previously in an H2020 project EnTire about research integrity, and in a COST Action about Disaster Medicine.

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

The member of IECFV are healthcare professionals or professionals coming from humanities involved in healthcare ethics committees and research ethics committees, and they are frequently involved in the analysis of ethical issues related to clinical cases in emergency crisis. Emanuele Valenti has been involved in the COST ACTION 1201 bioethics disaster focussed on emergency medicine and has an expertise on the subject. His involvement in the action has been related to the use of coercion and restriction applied by public health authorities in disaster circumstances, the ethical issues of end-of-life care and research ethics in disaster, with a specific work on the triage criteria application in disaster. Clinical expertise and ethical backgrounds are common standards of IECFV activities, End-of-life care is frequently a conflictive clinical area where decision-making involve the analysis of cost and the effects. Our experience with target groups of the project represent a strength and can be a reason to support the partnership to face the challenges related to emergency medicine decision-making. Clinical experience and academic experience in HEI education and adult learning are facilitators to explore the most relevant issues related to the development of the educational material of the project. The previous experience in European research project in the program

Erasmus Plus and Horizont 2020 are other aspect contributing to the implementation of the research activities and the problem solving of circumstances frequently happening in multidisciplinary setting and in the international. environment. IECFV has previous experience in the design of online educational products and in the application of innovative solutions in medical education and adult education. Researchers representing IECFV had expertise about the development of soft-skills and the design of training program to improve soft skills in paediatrics, and about the empowerment of domestic violence survivors in Peru. Emanuele Valenti has expertise in research with about disaster medicine and has been involved in a huge network of researchers about the subject in international environment. IECFV has been involved in the development of two different MOOCs foe healthcare professionals and has expertise in design e-learning contents.

Contributions that can be provided to the project

The IECFV expertise is focussed on clinical ethics and empirical research, our expertise can offer support to the qualitative process of development of deliverable and the analysis of all the ethical issues associated with the different aspect of the MOOC. Our research team has expertise in deliberative approach analysis of clinical cases presenting ethical issues and in developing the empirical based research to develop ethical guidelines.

Reasons of involvement in the project

Emanuele is a Senior Research Associate in Healthcare Ethics at the Centre for Ethics in Medicine, Bristol Medical School. He has a background in philosophy and has expertise in qualitative research, and his primary role in BABEL is on workstream His research interests are broadly focused on mental health and coercion, with a particular interest in ethical issues arising in mental healthcare and the role of best interests in decision making processes for people with mental disabilities.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

Emanuele Valenti is the deputy director of the the Institute for Clinical Ethics Francisco Vallés – Universidad Europea. He is a Senior Research Associate in Healthcare at the Centre for Ethics in Medicine of the University of Bristol, United Kingdom, where is currently involved in BABEL a research project funded by Wellcome Trust. He has been Lecturer in the Clinical and Pharmacy Departments of the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences at the Universidad Europea, where he is lectured in the courses of medical humanities and legal medicine to medical students, bioethics, social and legal aspects of biotechnology to biotechnology students, ethics and pharmaceutical law to pharmacy students. After a degree in Philosophy at the Universitá degli Studi di Milano, Italy, he had a master's degree in Bioethics and a Ph.D in Medical Humanities at the Medical School of the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, mentored by Prof. Diego Gracia. On 2008-2009 he has been a Research Scholar in the Center for Bioethics of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, US, and on 2010 at the Center for Mental Health Research, Medical School of the University of Massachusetts, Worcester, US. On 2010 he worked as Research Fellow at the Centro di Bioetica Clinica e Governance della Salute Ca' Granda, Ospedale Policlinico di Milano, Italy. Since 2012 he is a Visiting Research Fellow at the Center for Social and Community Psychiatry WHO Collaborating Center for Mental Health Services Development, at Queen Mary University of London, United Kingdom. He is currently researcher at the Research Unit Hospital Universitario Fundación Alcorcón, visiting researcher in the Department of Psychiatry, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, visiting researcher in the Palliative Care Unit of the Hospital Universitario Gregorio Marañon. He is currently Spain member committee in the COST Action IS2101 Bioethics Disaster and researcher and project manager for Spain of the following projects: Massive open online courses with videos for palliative clinical field and intercultural and multilingual medical communication (MedLang) 2014-1-RO01-KA203-002940 and Soft Skills for Children's Health (Softis-Ped) 2016-R001-KA203-024630 funded by European Commission through the program ERASMUS +: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices. Action: Strategic Partnership. He coordinates in Spain the research project Mapping Normative Framework for Ethics and Integrity of Research (EnTire) H2020-SwafS-2016-741782 funded by European Commission through the program Horizont 2020, Pillar: Science with and for Society. He is involved in research activity about medical ethics teaching innovation in the Cambridge Consortium for Bioethics and in the UNESCO Chair for Bioethics WGs: Autonomy and Dignity in Medical Research and Practice and Bioethics and Human Rights, Forced Displacement in Conflict Scenarios.