

VA HEALTH SYSTEM MEASURES ETHICS AS PART OF QUALITY

Philadelphia, PA—**AJOB Primary Research** is pleased to announce the publication of its latest issue, “Ethics Quality in the VA Health Care System” (Volume 4, Issue 1, published by Taylor & Francis). This collection of research and analyses related to evaluating and improving ethics quality will provide audiences with a critical, in-depth understanding of the role of empirical data in assessing ethics quality in health care delivery, management, and research.

This special issue of **AJOB Primary Research** includes a set of articles, coordinated by **Dr. Ellen Fox**, describing key aspects of the IntegratedEthics™ (IE) program of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system. The IE program is intended to provide a comprehensive approach to promoting ethics quality in health care.

The editors would like to express appreciation to Dr. Ellen Fox for coordinating the development and submission of the manuscripts for this special issue of **AJOB Primary Research**. As the Chief Ethics in Health Care Officer at the National Center for Ethics in Health Care (NCEHC), Dr. Fox has overseen the development and implementation of innovative programs to improve ethics quality in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

The National Center for Ethics in Health Care within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is the VA's primary office for addressing the complex ethical issues that arise in patient care, health care management, and research. The Center's mission is to establish and communicate ethical standards in health care and promote practice consistent with those standards within VA and nationwide.

Publishing 4 issues per year, the mission of **AJOB Primary Research** is to advance the pursuit of empirical work in bioethics through the publication of primary research in bioethics and conceptual analyses of the relationship between descriptive and normative inquiry. **AJOB Primary Research** broadly construes empirical bioethics to include social scientific research applied to bioethical questions, health policy and health services research as it relates to bioethics, and other forms of original research including evidence-based literature reviews and commentary on new developments in empirical bioethics.

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