

APACPH Collaboration Initiative on Public Health Law & Ethics

2018 Activities for Asian Institute for Bioethics and Health Law
(WHO Collaborating Center for Health Law & Bioethics)

1. WHO related activities

A. Projects as a WHO Collaborating Centre

- a. AIBHL has been re-designated as WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Law and Bioethics as of 28 February, 2018. Three core activities will be conducted as WHO Collaborating Centre – supporting the development of expert networks and communities of practice in relation to health law and ethics and their contribution to advancing UHC and SDGs, supporting international activities of Korean Parliamentarian Forum on Global Health, including through engagement with the Asia-Pacific Parliamentarian Forum on Global Health, and supporting WHO in strengthening national capacities to address regional priority issues in health law and ethics. (2018.02.28-present)
- b. The Korean Parliamentarian Forum on Global Health 2018.
Last September, the Korean Parliamentarian Forum on Global Health 2017 was held in Seoul. This year, The Korean Parliamentarian Forum on Global Health 2018 ‘Genetic Discrimination in the World’ which will be held from April 16th to 17th in Seoul, Republic of Korea. And Yonsei University has been provided administrative support to the forum. (2018.04.16-17)

2. Other projects

A. Genomic ELSI (Ethical, Legal and Social Implications) Research Centre

- a. Centre for ELSI Research on Genomics
As human genomic research has grown rapidly, the importance of ethical, legal and social implications on human genomic research has arisen as well. Thus, the project on ELSI aims to encourage ELSI study and human genomic research in Korea, to raise social understanding level of human genomic research and to suggest ethical, legal and political considerations. After the Guideline ELSI project, the next project on ELSI is being carried on with the title ‘Centre for ELSI (Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications) Research on Genomics.’ This project aims to draw academic performance to solve the problems of genomic research areas, ethical, legal, social issues and social diffusion. Also, through the research, we would like to reason out the ethical, legal, and social problems in preventing misuse and abuse applied to a clinical trial of genetic technology and genome data. (2016.12.07-2018.12.31)
- b. Research on the Social and Ethical Basis for ‘Precision Medicine Research Resource Development Project’
Since 2015, the former U.S. President Barack Obama announced the Precision Medicine Initiative, and in worldwide, ‘Precision Medicine’ became the primary issue in the biotechnology area. While preparing ‘Precision Medicine Research in Korea’ Korea’s Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (KCDC) order a basic research for ‘Precision Medicine Research Resource Development Project’. Therefore Genomic ELSI Research Centre will

conduct basic research for Korea's Precision Medicine especially regarding social and ethical aspects. (2017.08–2018.08)

B. Public Health Educational Capacity Development of University of Health & Allied Sciences in Ghana

Followed by the previous project on maternal child health of Volta Region in Ghana, 'Public Health Educational Capacity Development of University of Health & Allied Sciences in Ghana' is conducted from April 2017. It is a 4-year project, aiming to improve major health index of the community by strengthening the capacity of university. The project is divided into three parts, faculty professional development, curriculum remodelling, and development of Vocational Training on Community Health.

The first-year project has achieved its original purpose of identifying current curriculum and now it is turning to the second-year from April 2018 to March 2019. (2017.04.01-2021.03.31)

C. Project on Patient Safety

Despite the significance of patient safety and the necessity of patient safety education, few schools include Patient Safety into their curriculum as a course subject. In the process of educating preliminary medical practitioners, increasing understanding of patient safety is one of the essential elements to improve quality of healthcare services and patient safety.

The 3 year project which has funded by Korea Institute for Healthcare Accreditation aimed to identify current status of patient safety courses and develop a patient safety curriculum undergraduate students (medical, nursing, pharmaceutical) who are preliminary medical practitioners.

As a result of this project, to improve patient safety and increase the public interest. Also the research team has developed the classification system to classify the reports reported to the national reporting and learning system based on the WHO framework (International classification for patient safety) and some kinds of nations.

D. Upcoming conferences

- a. International Congress on Personalized Health Care (ICPHC): Presenting Genomic ELSI Research Center's research in ICPHC 2018. It will be held in Montreal, Canada from 23 to 26 September 2018. The congress will be a great opportunity to exchange research idea with related experts.
- b. Global Alliance for Genomics & Health (GA4GH): Participating 6th plenary meeting of GA4GH, which will be held at the Congress Center Basel in Basel, Switzerland from 3 to 6 October 2018. The meeting will be an excellent opportunity to set up a network with the other researchers in the Genomic ELSI area.
- c. Second International Summit on Human Genome Editing: Presenting Genomic ELSI Research center's research and share idea regarding human genome editing in the second international summit on human genome editing, which will be held at the University of Hong Kong from 27 to 29 November 2018. The summit will be a perfect opportunity to share ideas regarding the genomic ELSI research and establish a network in this area.
- d. 14th World Congress of Bioethics and 7th National Bioethics Conference: Will be held an in-congress workshop in the 14th WCB and 7th NBC. It will be held in India from 3 to 7 December 2018. The congress will be a good opportunity to share ideas regarding genetic discrimination in the world.