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Deregulating Health Care Ethics Education: A Curriculum Proposal

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Ethics education is an important component of health care management education. However, this article argues that the focus in many health care management ethics courses is misplaced, as the stress is on the need for dealing with increasing control of organization actions, corporate compliance, and issues related to laws and regulations such as the False Claims Act, qui tam, and whistle blowing. This article suggests that we need a “deregulated” approach to address the problem of fraud, waste and abuse in the practice of health care management, and should also incorporate this approach into health care management ethics education. A deregulated ethics curriculum for health care management ethics education, using a modified Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) accreditation process informed by virtue ethics as a case example, is proposed and discussed.

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