# 29TH WORLD CONGRESS ON MEDICAL LAW (WCML)

## 5-8 AUGUST 2025 HILTON ISTANBUL BOSPHORUS İSTANBUL, TÜRKİYE

## **ABSTRACT BOOK**

## **Editors**

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## Welcome to Türkiye

I would like to welcome you the esteemed delegates of the World Association for Medical Law and dear participants for the 29th World Congress for Medical Law.

I am delighted to express my honor and pleasure in Ankara University's hosting this significant event together with World Association for Medical Law (WAML).

Ankara University has committed itself to enlighten the path of humanity always considering what the founder of our republic, the great Atatürk, had stated: "The truest guide in life is science." To achieve this goal, our university puts all its effort into building an appropriate environment for original and qualified studies and raising individuals who are self-reliant, free thinking, unprejudiced, and respectful to social and universal values.

Ankara University has set values like participation, transparency, justice, equality of opportunity, and competence as its principles and regards supporting initiatives in ethics and offering original contributions to the issue as a priority. Research are being conducted and educational programs are being offered by many departments contributing to the fields of medical law and bioethics through a multidisciplinary perspective at our university. As a physician and a scientist who considers the guidance of ethics both as a need and an anchor, I do acknowledge the necessity to enhance these efforts.

Professor Berna Arda (MD, PhD, MSpec), who led many international and national institutions and activities, has been working for the History of Medicine and Ethics Department which was founded in 1946 and was one of the first ones of our Medical School. As a pioneer in bioethics, Professor

Arda is now organizing the 29th World Congress for Medical Law and Bioethics following the "3rd International Conference on Islam and Bioethics" organized in 2010 by Ankara University in collaboration with Haifa University in Antalya and 2nd International Conference on Ethics Education in Ankara in 2014. I would like to congratulate her for this remarkable efforts.

I hope that this intensive three-day academic program reveals the current situation of vulnerability concept all over the World and provides a medium for the sharing of experiences. I wish the congress proves to be a successful and efficient one for all participants.

Yours sincerely **Prof. Dr. Necdet ÜNÜVAR** Rector of Ankara University



Dear Rector of Ankara University, dear President of Turkish Medical Association, esteemed colleagues

On behalf of Ankara University and WAML, it is really great honour to see you as distinguished participants of the 29th World Congress for Medical Law and Bioethics in Istanbul.

My country attributes great importance to this unique and rapidly evolving academic disciplines of humanity, medicine and law intersect. There are medical ethics and medical law courses in all medical schools, as an indispensable part of undergraduate medical education in Türkiye. This fact is based on the traditional approach in medical education since 19th century, and this huge potential background offered us a great opportunity to study, explore and shape modern ethics curriculum in medicine. This dynamic nature, necessitates depth and through assessments of medical practice from an ethico-legal standing point. This three days congress will focus on the normative and bioethical dimensions of vulnerability concept in our era so it looks as an great opportunity to discussed health disparities relevant to vulnerability with different dimensions.

I am grateful to all colleagues, scholars of various disciplines such as medicine, law, history of medicine, sociology, philosophy, bioethics, women's studies, who flight for hours to reach Istanbul to share their academic experiences with us. Your valuable participation has broader impact on the development of medical law and bioethics in all over the world. More than 250 abstracts from 55 different countries has been submitted.

I am a WAML member since 2005 and worked actively in the WAML as a governor for Türkiye since 2006 and six years as treasurer in EC. I haven't missed any WCML since 2000 Helsinki. Thanks to Amnon Carmi and Thomas Noguchi, who knows my dedication. I am proud of to be an academic staff of Ankara University, always supported and encouraged me.

I would also say cordially thanks to TUBİTAK (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye), Turkish Airlines, Turkish Transplant Foundation and Istanbul Convention and Visitors Bureau for their support to the Congress.

There will be three plenary sessions and twelve conferences in plenary, one forum, one workshop, one panel and three sessions for poster discussions.

WAML General Assembly will be held on the second day of conference and a boat tour is waiting for us at the end of the first day. On 9th of August, Saturday a guided tour will be organized.

Wishing a fruitful congress in Istanbul, "capital of medical law and bioethics for three days"

Sincerely

Prof. Berna Arda (MD, Med Spec, PhD)

Ankara University, School of Medicine Chair, Women's Studies Department, Ankara University Istanbul Congress Ambassador

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## ADDRESSING PATIENTS' VULNERABILITY RELATED TO THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE – LEGAL CHALLENGES

#### Ranko Sovilj

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The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in healthcare is rapidly growing, offering a range of potential benefits such as improved diagnostic accuracy, and personalized treatment. However, the integration of AI in healthcare also poses several legal and ethical challenges that need to be carefully addressed to ensure patient safety, fairness, and equity. These challenges are primarily related to privacy, surveillance, bias, discrimination, responsibility, and the role of human judgment in medical decisions. As AI systems become more integrated into healthcare, they are also becoming potential targets for cyberattacks. These systems frequently deal with sensitive health data, including patient records, where patient information is either stolen or manipulated, as well as attacks that compromise the functionality of AI systems, which could result in inaccurate diagnoses or inappropriate treatment recommendations. In healthcare, even minor errors in AI-driven procedures or protocols can have catastrophic consequences for patients, who are already vulnerable due to their medical conditions. Given that patients typically interact with healthcare professionals at their most fragile moments, it is essential to ensure that AI systems operate with the highest degree of accuracy and safety. Therefore, the need to address cybersecurity vulnerabilities is critical due to the potentially severe consequences of AIrelated cyberattacks within healthcare system. The integration of AI in healthcare has enormous potential but comes with significant legal, ethical, and technical challenges. These challenges must be addressed through careful regulation, transparent practices, and continuous engagement of both patients and healthcare professionals. Balancing the potential benefits of AI with the protection of patient rights, the maintenance of trust in healthcare, and the safeguarding of fairness are essential for the responsible use of AI in healthcare. Nowadays, there are still no comprehensive regulations specifically addressing the legal and ethical issues surrounding the use of AI

in healthcare. Hence, legal frameworks, ethical guidelines, and robust supervision will be crucial in ensuring that AI's use in healthcare ultimately benefits patients without compromising their safety, dignity, or rights. Top of Form This paper aims to explore these critical concerns, emphasizing the importance of algorithmic transparency, the protection of patient privacy, and the safeguarding of all individuals from potential harm. Additionally, the paper highlights the urgency of addressing cybersecurity vulnerabilities associated with AI technologies in healthcare.