

Strategy 2030 for the Centre for Medical Ethics



Overall goals

The Center for Medical Ethics (CME) shall be a leading centre in medical and healthcare ethics nationally and internationally. CME will carry out interdisciplinary research, teaching and dissemination of outstanding quality. CME's work should strengthen awareness and handling of ethical challenges and contribute to critical reflection and a sustainable health service. CME shall collaborate closely with other departments at the Institute for Health and Society (Helsam) and other important partners locally, nationally and internationally, have a good gender balance and facilitate diversity, provide good career opportunities, and be a good workplace regardless of position type and life stage.

Sub-goal research

Perform outstanding research within the centre's three main areas:

- A. Foundational issues in medicine and health sciences
- B. Research ethics and integrity within medicine and health sciences
- C. Ethics and priority setting in healthcare and in public health

The research will include interdisciplinary issues that cut across these three main areas, such as sustainability and ethical challenges with using technology in the health service and in research. CME's work with clinical and societal challenges shall include basic research, applied research and social innovation. The research will contribute to bridging the gaps between empirical data and theory and between ethics and epistemology. CME shall develop high-quality project applications and obtain funding for these, including from the Research Council of Norway and the EU, and apply for funding for a Center of Excellence by 2030.

Sub-goal teaching and skills development

Perform and contribute to research-based teaching and skills development in ethics with high relevance for students on the medicine, dentistry and nutrition studies at the University of Oslo, the master's programs at Helsam, the research training at the Faculty of Medicine, as well as for employees in the health service, other health educations, other researchers and other relevant groups. The following measures shall be given high priority:

- Further develop our master's modules in medical and healthcare ethics, and develop a specialization in which these subjects are included – or a separate master's program – as well as an introductory module in health law
- Further develop our ethics teaching at the medical school in line with national guidelines (RETHOS) and the sustainability goals
- Further develop teaching in research ethics and research integrity at master's and PhD level, and for other academic staff and students
- Further develop teaching in research ethics and research integrity for national and international research ethics committees, health authorities and other groups, such as patient organizations

- Further develop our skills development and guidance for persons responsible for ethics in the health service, including members of clinical ethics committees and leaders of ethics reflection
- Further develop continuing education and other skills development for other employees in the health service, including doctors in training and unskilled workers
- Systematically evaluate and revise our teaching and strengthen our own employees' pedagogical competence, including interactive and digital teaching methods
- Increase PhD candidates' and other employees' competence in ethics through strengthened internal teaching

Sub-goals dissemination

Participate in the public square and inform about ethical issues within our field, and contribute to implementation within our subject area. The following measures shall be given high priority:

- Disseminate new research to health personnel, managers, health authorities, patients and relatives – nationally and internationally – as well as to other researchers and teachers
- Contribute to public investigations and write consultation responses
- Develop and refine user-friendly websites and digital resources
- Respond to inquiries from the media and others who want us to contribute with our expertise
- Contribute to research being put to use by supporting the implementation of evidence in practice