Medical Ethics Subcommittee Update

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Defense Health Board Meeting
March 8, 2011
Outline

• Subcommittee Membership
• Subcommittee Charge
• Recent Activities
• Active Issues
• Potential Issues
• Discussion
Subcommittee Membership

- Membership pending reappointments
Subcommittee Charge

• Address issues pertaining to moral values as they apply to medicine and their practical application in clinical settings

• Review latest developments in medical ethics as they pertain to the DoD
Active Issues

• How can military medical professionals most appropriately balance their obligations to their patients against their obligations as military officers to help commanders maintain military readiness?

• How much latitude should military medical professionals be given to refuse participation in medical procedures or military operations with which they have ethical reservations or disagreement?
Active Issues (Continued)

December 2, 2010 Meeting: Briefers

- **Dr. Jack Smith**
  Director, Clinical and Program Policy Integration, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs

- **Dr. Edmund Howe**
  Director of Programs in Ethics and Chair, Institutional Review Board, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

- **Dr. Edward Gabriele**
  Special Assistant for Ethics and Professional Integrity, Office of the Surgeon General of the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

- **Dr. Albert Pierce**
  Director, Institute for National Security Ethics and Leadership (INSEL), National Defense University
December 2, 2010 Meeting
Briefers (Continued)

• Dr. Elizabeth Holmes
  Director of Assessment, James B. Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership, United States Naval Academy

• Dr. Griffin Trotter
  Associate Professor, Center for Health Care Ethics, Saint Louis University

• Mr. Jonathan H. Marks
  Associate Professor of Bioethics, Humanities and Law and Affiliate Law Faculty, Penn State University; Fellow, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Harvard University

• Dr. Sondra Crosby
  Associate Professor of Medicine, Boston University
December 2, 2010 Meeting: Discussion Topics

- Dual loyalties
  - Medical Ethical codes
  - Military law
- Belief systems and moral influences
- Support for providers handling difficult ethical dilemmas
- Ethics training for military providers
Potential Issues

• Ethics education for medical personnel within the Military Health System
• Ethics primer for Board members
Discussion