**Primum non nocere**

“I will apply treatment for the benefit of the sick according to my ability and judgment; I will keep them from harm and injustice”

3rd paragraph
Hippocratic Oath

**Ethics - Read and consider:**
Chapter 14, pages 329-339, Gelehrter/Collins/Ginsburg text

How do we value science and technology?

How do we value human life in past, present, and future generations?

How can we comfortably merge our answers to the above questions within our own personal and/or cultural value system and ethical frameworks?
EUGENICS
(good birth)

“The study of the agencies under social control that may improve or impair the racial qualities of future generations, either physically or mentally.”

- Sir Francis Galton, 1883

“......the mainspring of eugenic doctrine has national rather than individual welfare as its motive; it aims at the betterment of future generations rather than the increased comfort of the individual.”

- K. Pearson, Professor of Eugenics
1925
The P’s that Merit Special Consideration in Genetic Testing

- Preconception
- Preimplantation
- Prenatal
- Predictive/Presymptomatic
- Population Screening
- Pediatric

- Values
  - Subjective beliefs of what is desirable
- Moral Principles
  - Guides for conduct and character based on what is right and wrong
- Ethics
  - Shared framework of moral principles
- Laws
  - Regulations developed in societies based on rights, values, moral principles, and ethics
- Rights
  - Claims that have a moral or legal basis
The P’s of Policy Development

- Prohibit
- Protect
- Permit
- Prevent

Ethical Theories

- Teleological Theories or Consequentialism: Utilitarian
  “greatest good for the greatest number”
- Deontological Theories: Kant’s Moral Law
  “things are clearly good or bad, right or wrong”
- Virtue Based Theories
  “what is the most virtuous thing to do”
Key Concerns and Related Ethical Concepts

- Safety (Nonmaleficence)
- Efficacy/Benefits (Beneficence)
- Informed Consent (Autonomy)
- Allocation of Resources (Justice)

Ethical Principles

- Autonomy
  - Individual rights and decision making
  - Paternalism interferes with autonomy
- Nonmaleficence and Beneficence
  - First, do no harm
  - Do benefits outweigh risks
  - Principle of proportionality
- Equity and Justice
  - Distribution of resources
  - Fairness in treatment
- Respect for Human Dignity and Diversity
- Privacy and Confidentiality
Emphasis on particular ethical principles differs among different societies and shifts within societies

1950s - 1960s:
Beneficence, Autonomy, Justice and Equity

1970s - 2001
Autonomy, Beneficence, Justice and Equity

2002 - ?
?? Justice and Equity, Autonomy and Beneficence

Who decides?

Individual vs. Society

Private vs. Public Interests
Where do we go from here?
What roles can we play?