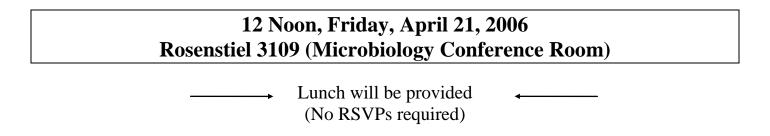
DIALOGUES IN RESEARCH ETHICS

Dialogue 9

A Moral Framework for Public Health Ethics & Prevention: What's the Fuss?

Katie Wasson, Ph.D.

National Cancer Institute



Increased attention is being paid to special moral frameworks for public health. This has generated some controversy. The emphasis on communities and populations rather than individuals or the physician-patient relationship means that some dilemmas in public health differ in relevant ways from those in clinical practice or research. A proposed framework will be examined in relation to practical dilemmas in public health and prevention, such as screening mammography and direct-to-consumer genetic testing.

Dr. Wasson is a Fellow in the Ethics of Prevention and Public Health at the National Cancer Institute. She worked for five years as a clinical bioethicist with a palliative care team in London. Her research interests include moral frameworks in public health and bioethics, ethical issues surrounding genetic technology and end-of-life issues.

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