ETHICAL, LEGAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES IN APPLIED GENOMICS

Duration	4 days of face-to-face teaching plus self-directed learning
Cost:	£1250. If you are an NHS employee, full funding is available through Health Education England
Tutors:	Dr Anna Pacholczyk – St George's University of London Institute for Medical and Biomedical Education, Lecturer in Medical Ethics and Law
Location:	St George's University of London

You will be provided with a platform of ethical understanding from which to consider issues of human confidentiality, autonomy, disclosure, informed consent and natural justice. Upon this platform, you will consider the impact of genomic technologies on individual lives and those of demographic and ethnic groupings.

The social implications of the availability of genetic testing and screening will be considered, especially in the context of reproductive technologies. Finally you will be provided with a legal framework for patenting of genetic information as well as the use of genetic data for research, diagnostic and therapeutic purposes.

AIMS

- Provide a framework for ethical understanding of medical genomics. Many genomic tests have wider implications for the patient and their family, particularly where these may have a predictive aspect, provide incidental information, have potential for being misleading or increase uncertainty.
- Explore the ethical, legal and social issues (ELSI) involved in genomic testing and in specific integrated pathways.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the module, students should be able to:

- Defend the ethical principles of autonomy and justice/fairness and apply these to key practical issues such as confidentiality, disclosure and informed consent in scenarios within genomic medicine
- Critically evaluate the challenges of emerging genomic technologies on society and societal values
- Analyse the current legal framework within which genomic medicine in practised in the UK
- Critically evaluate the potential ethical, legal and social impact of genomic medical advances in a clinical pathway
- Critically appraise the potential impact of genetic databases on human autonomy, healthcare provision and discrimination
- Identify those clinical pathways in own specialty or field of practice where the use of genomic investigation/techniques may be beneficial to patients, and be able to present a balanced view taking into account benefits and potential burdens

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should have a minimum of a lower second class degree (2:2) in a subject that offers an appropriate grounding in science, genetics, healthcare or ethics. Alternative professional qualifications may be considered.

PREREQUISITES

We offer Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) which you can study online to deepen your understanding.

These courses are available at: www.futurelearn.com/partners/sgul

More information at kcl.ac.uk/genomicmedicine
Apply via sgul.ac.uk/genomics