

Master Class: “Data Justice in Healthcare”

organized by the Digital Medical Ethics Network
19th – 23th of February 2024 in Tübingen, Germany

Call for Abstracts

Biomedical research, provision of healthcare, medical diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment increasingly rely on the processing of huge amounts of data and use of digital technologies. Emerging fields include Artificial Intelligence or Machine Learning to support medical diagnosis, electronic health records to improve the accessibility of patient data and connect health practice and research, as well as mobile health technologies. The increasing availability of digital data and technologies has both conceptual and practical implications for the way people are seen and treated within healthcare. The idea of data justice describes the development of a fundamental standard what is owed to individuals with regard to their health data. Theories of data justice give rise to at least three dimensions of ethical inquiry: questions of visibility and adequate representation in data, questions regarding the ability to engage (and disengage) with technology and to have proportionate access to the benefits and questions regarding the ability to address discrimination and materialised biases. The Master Class “Data Justice in Healthcare” aims to promote the exchange of ideas about the emergence, the ethical significance as well as possible individual and systemic solution strategies for a just handling of data within healthcare. We are inviting contributions that address questions of data justice including but not limited to one of the following subtopics.

- *Data justice in medical AI/ML*
 - e.g. ethically addressing biases and biased data; data representation; reliability and transparency; accountability; concepts of harm; ensuring fair distribution of benefits; (de-)materialising power and oppression.
- *Data justice in mobile health technologies (mHealth)*
 - e.g. considering access to and ownership of data; mHealth and marginalized communities; empowerment and just datafication; medical and non-medical data; mHealth and public health (surveillance); approaches of equitable design
- *Data justice and data governance*
 - e.g. ethical challenges of data sharing and data integration; just frameworks for health data governance; roles and responsibilities of stakeholders

Participants of the Master Class will have the opportunity to discuss their paper and thoughts with renowned scientists from different disciplines working on digitalization in the health context and data justice. Experts confirmed so far, who will enrich the week with lectures/workshops, are:

- **Dr. Linnet Taylor** (Professor of International Data Governance, Tilburg Institute for Law, Technology and Society, Global Data Justice project)
- **Dr. Tineke Broer** (Assistant Professor, Tilburg Institute for Law, Technology, and Society & Department of Culture Studies, ERC project on digital mental health, apps and safety)
- **Dr. Sune Hannibal Holm** (Associate Professor, Section for Consumption, Bioethics and Governance, University of Copenhagen)
- **Dr. Sven Nyholm** (Professor of the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

We are looking for:

- PhD students, PostDocs and early career researchers with interests on and willing to discuss questions regarding the ethical, legal, and social aspects in the context of digitalization, health, and data justice
- working in (one or more of) the following fields: life sciences, medicine, public health, ethics, social sciences, law, gerontology, informatics/computer sciences
- willing to prepare a paper, to present and discuss it with participants and experts (a joint publication of the results is intended and will be discussed during the Master Class)
- interested in an international perspective

Applicants are asked to submit an abstract in English on the topics mentioned above (max. 500 words) for the paper they would like to present at the Master Class together with a short CV via e-mail to info@digitalmedicalethics.net until 31th of July 2023.

After consultation by a team of experts, up to 14 participants will receive invitations until 31th of October 2023. Invited participants will be asked to submit the manuscripts of their papers until 8th of January 2024. The manuscripts will be distributed to all participants in advance for preparation of the research retreat, which will take place from the 19th – 23th of February 2024.

Additional information

- **Location:** Guest House of the University, Lessingweg 3, 72074 Tübingen, Germany
- **Costs:** Travel expenses will be refunded; the organizers will pay for accommodation/catering.

Contact for questions or further information: info@digitalmedicalethics.net

Organisation

Dr. Florian Funer, M.A.; Prof. Dr. Hans-Jörg Ehni; Prof. Dr. Dr. Urban Wiesing (Institute of Ethics and History of Medicine, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen, Germany)

Prof. Dr. Robert Ranisch; Dr. Joschka Haltaufderheide (Junior Professorship of Medical Ethics with a Focus on Digitization, Faculty of Health Sciences Brandenburg, University of Potsdam, Germany)

Dr. Thomas Grote (Excellence Cluster – Machine Learning. New Perspectives for science, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen, Germany)

The Digital Medical Ethics Network is an initiative funded by VolkswagenStiftung to address structural shortcomings in current digital health ethics research and to strengthen the scientific community through various measures of research, teaching and consultation.