

Medico-Legal Issues and Ethical Challenges in the Practice of Nanomedicine

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ABSTRACT

The field of nanomedicine is unique and emerging subject. Nanomedicine, as a subject has taken an abrupt leap in recent years owing to its wide array of application potential. It has tremendous potential in revolutionize the modern medical practice. Nevertheless, there is no clear-cut law or medicolegal guidelines as to address adverse outcomes of this practice except dealing it with the principles of natural justice. Many countries across the globe do not have a defined legal procedure to deal with the medicolegal issues arising out of practice of nanomedicine. One conspicuous observation about the practice of nanomedicine is so many potential risks, viz. chances of unforeseen risks and side-effects, absence of a defined regulatory framework and universal ethical policy, chances of arising legal loopholes during incorporating nanomedicine into a legal framework, etc. Simultaneously, it may potentially be accompanied with some medico-legal issues in its application; as the long-term effects and other unknown outcomes of practice of nanomedicine is yet to be evaluated. Something being applied to the patient care without the knowledge of its outcome is certainly warns of potential risks of ethical and medicolegal issues. Therefore, a thorough research is highly warranted before implementing nanomedicine into modern day medicine practice. There is a perceivable information-gap in the viewpoints of specialists from the medical, legal and ethical aspects the nanomedicine. This presentation is meant for filling-up information-gap among all its stakeholders across the disciplines.

Keywords: Nanomedicine, Risks, Ethical, Medicolegal, Challenge, Medicine

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