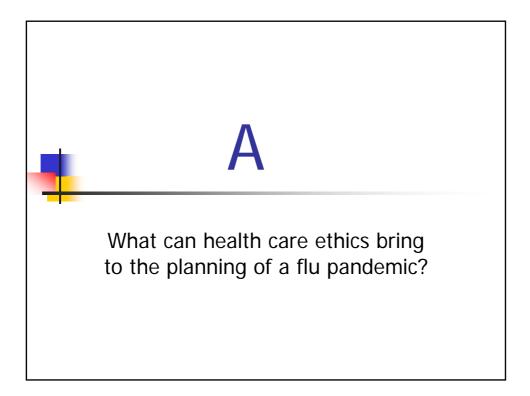
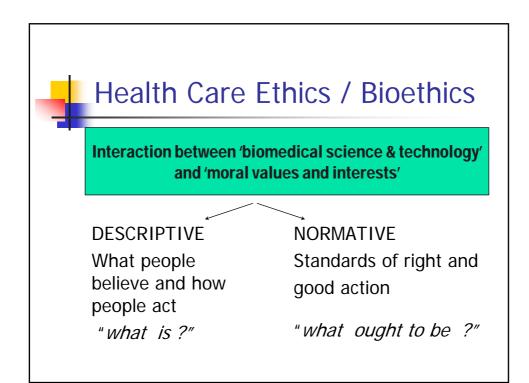


Cette présentation a été effectuée le 2 décembre 2004, au cours de la journée « Pandémie d'influenza ou la gestion d'une crise de santé publique dans un contexte de pénurie de ressources » dans le cadre des Journées annuelles de santé publique (JASP) 2004. L'ensemble des présentations est disponible sur le site Web des JASP, à l'adresse http://www.inspq.qc.ca/jasp/archives/.





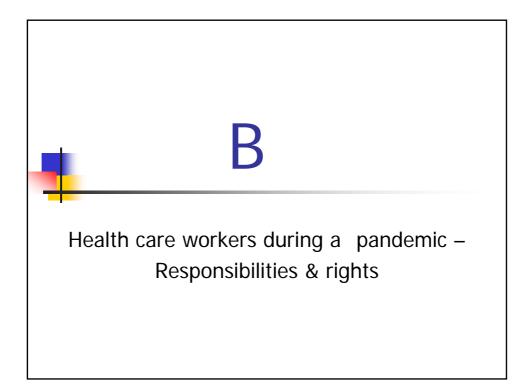


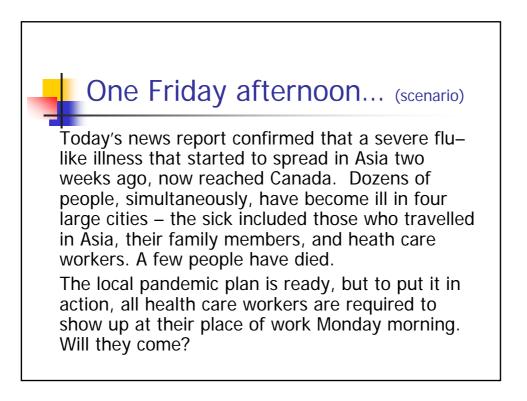
- Caring for people always involves making moral decisions, that is, dealing with values, interests and preferences.
- All professional, clinical or administrative decisions have a moral dimension. Morality in health care is all pervasive, inescapable, indivisible. We cannot first make a clinical decision and later a moral decision.
- Recipients of care often judge the outcome of care not in biological and statistical terms as experts tend to do, but, in moral terms.

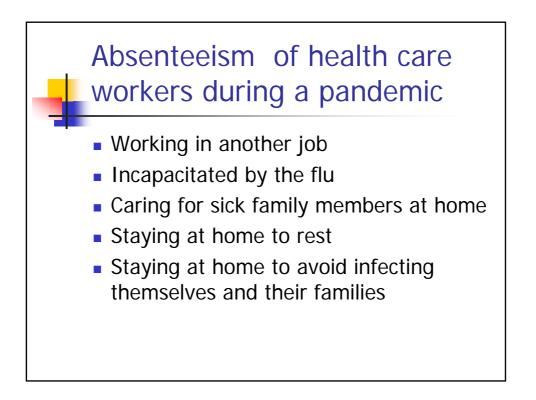


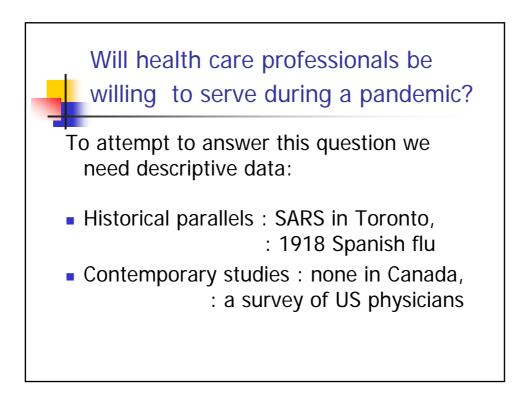


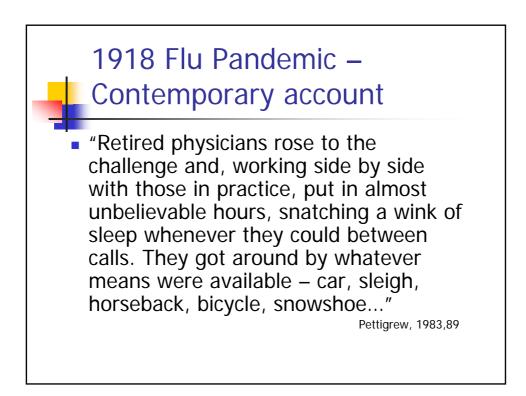


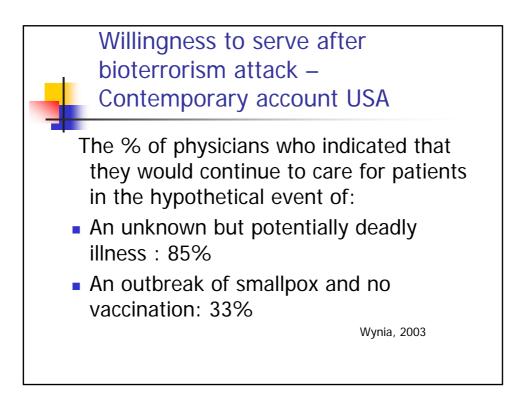


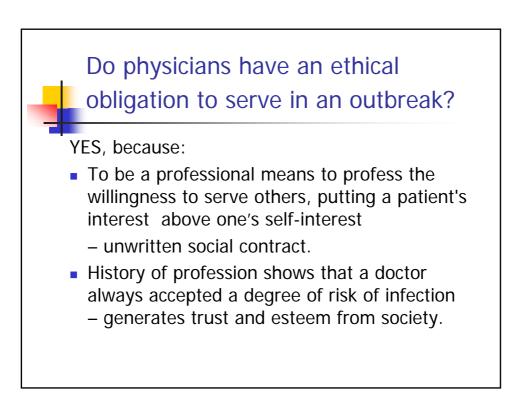


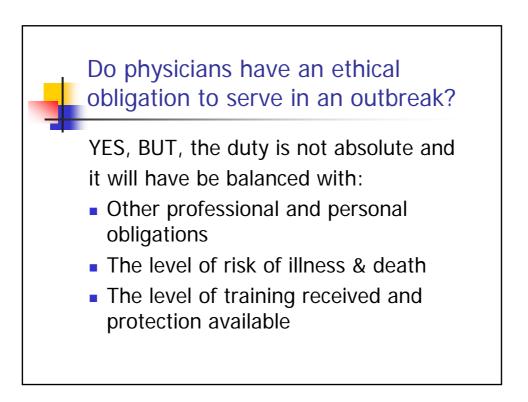




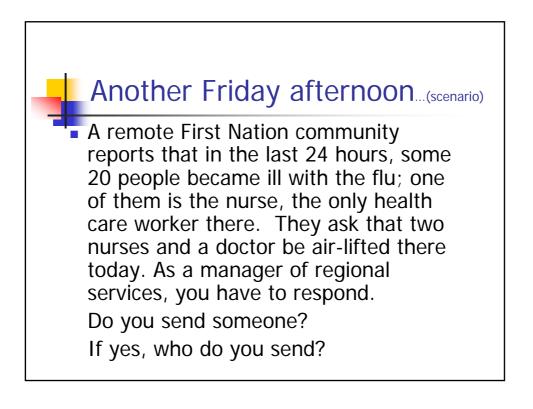












What could be done to enhance the ethical commitment to serve during an outbreak ?

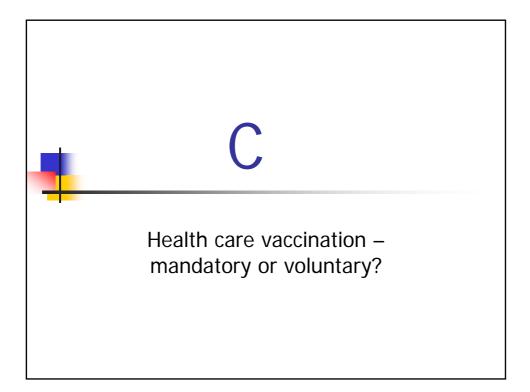
The fulfillment of reciprocal ethical obligations of institutions to:

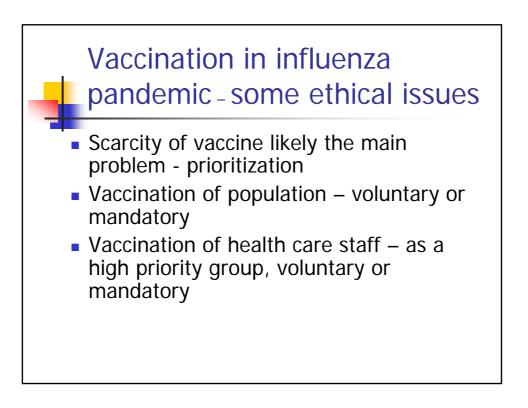
- Provide full available information about the needs, the risk, the means of protection.
- Provide all protective measures that are reasonably available, proportionate to the risks.
- Remove all legal, financial, and other barriers to the service (e.g. assume legal liability).

What could be done to enhance the ethical commitment to serve during an outbreak?

Most importantly,

Initiate a well informed, robust discussion about practical expectations and ethical responsibilities of all health care workers during the pandemic by sharing pandemic plans with all relevant professional organizations, trade unions and colleges of professions.

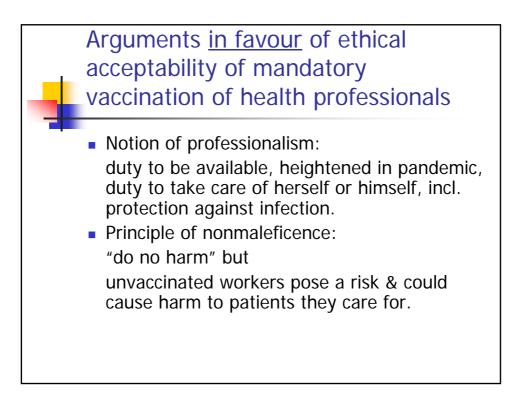


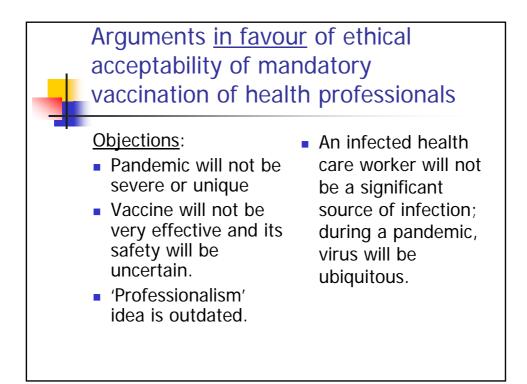


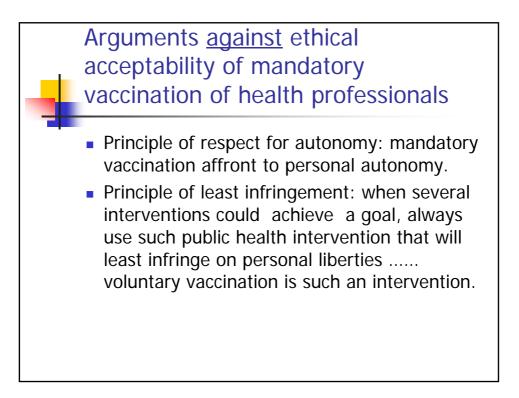
An Issues in Pandemic Contingency Planning

"Does State law allow for 'mandatory' vaccination of certain groups, if vaccination of certain groups is viewed by State public health officials as being 'essential'?"

US Guide for Local and State-wide Pandemic Planning http://www.hhs.gov/nvpo/pubs/pandemicflue.htm#INTRODUCTION







Arguments <u>against</u> ethical acceptability of mandatory vaccination of health professionals

 Argument from the principle of justice: treat same cases same way.
 Be impartial...

It would be unjust to single out health care workers for mandatory vaccination if other workers are not treated same way.

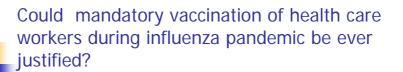


Some observations about these arguments

- Some of these claims and counter claims can be raised because of conflicting perceptions of facts and lack of empirical data about past and future pandemics...deficiency of pandemic plans.
- All these argument have some appeal, cannot be rejected easily...therefore, we need to aim for a balanced approach.

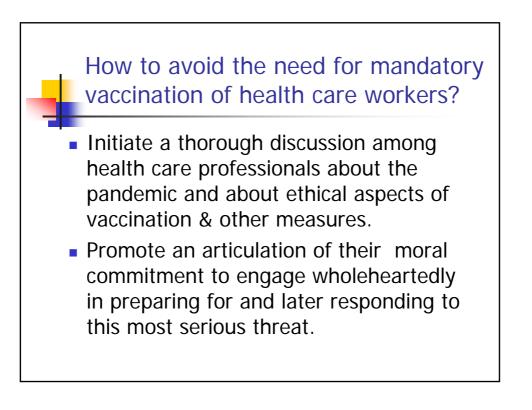
Arguments <u>in favour</u> of ethical acceptability of mandatory vaccination of health professionals

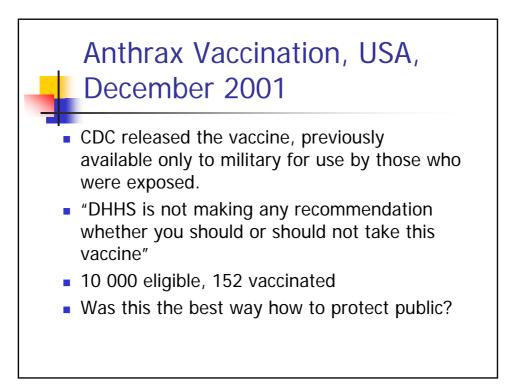
- Does existence of a moral obligation for health care workers to accept vaccination, justify passing a law that will enforce these obligations?
- Yes, if the foreseeable non-compliance would cause a severe or irreparable damage to society...if it would cause deaths that could be prevented.

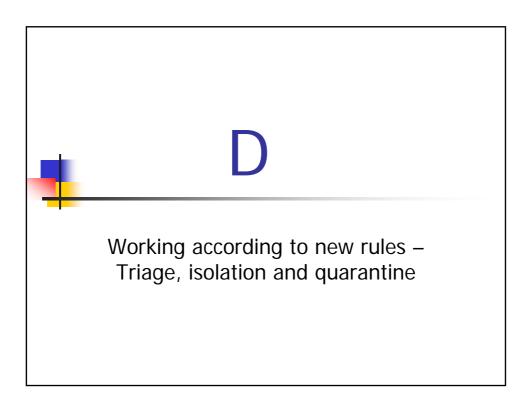


Yes, if and when all following assertions are true:

- The pandemic is of a serious nature.
- Pandemic influenza vaccine is reasonably safe.
- Pandemic influenza vaccine is reasonably effective.
- Unvaccinated health care workers represent a risk.
- Voluntary vaccination will not meet objectives of the vaccination program.







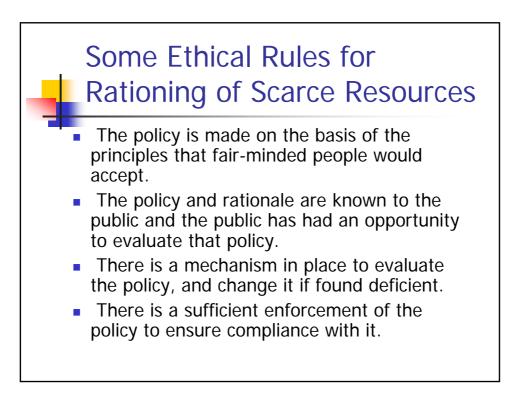
Will the health care staff follow the pandemic plan procedures? What is needed: Access to care X shortage of physicians. Recognition and reporting of the new infection X acceptance of importance. Containment (if recommended) X conflict with patient-centered professionalism. Flexibility X fixation of professional roles.

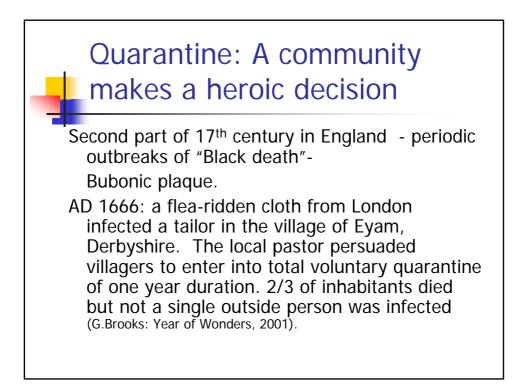
Battlefield style triage X triage by patients needs.

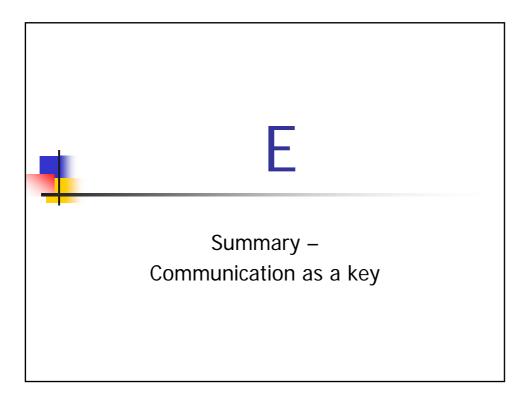


Triage of patients: Two concepts

- <u>Contemporary routine triage</u>: based on medical needs - most sick, those whose life is threatened will be attended to first
 -not ethically problematic.
- <u>Battlefield or major disaster triage</u>: based on medical needs & likelihood of benefit, those unlikely to survive given comfort measures only......ethically problematic.

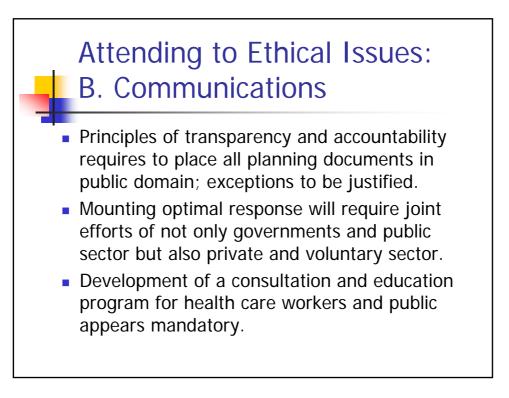


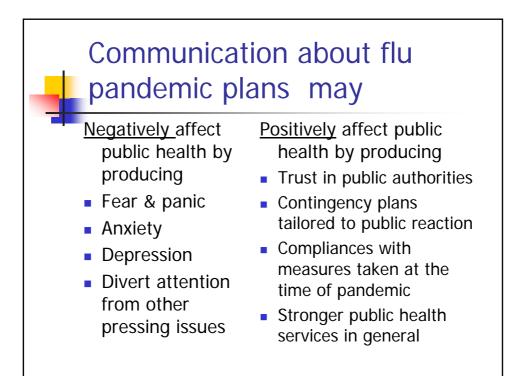


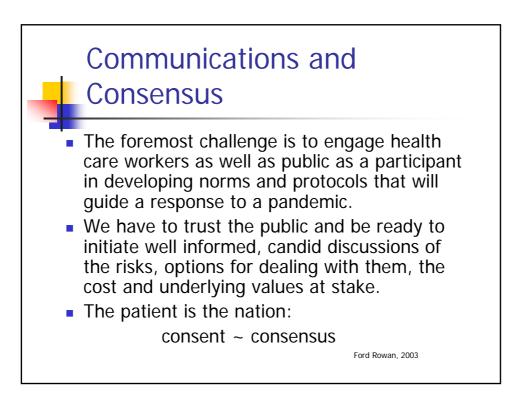


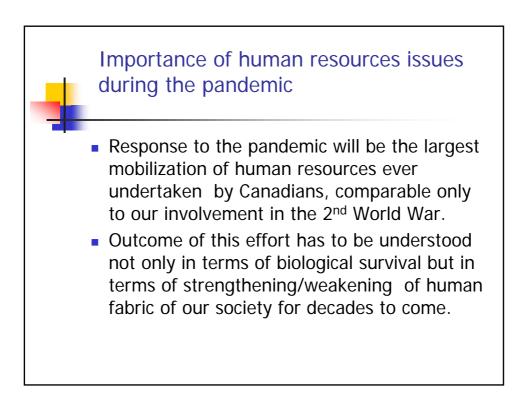
Attending to Ethical Issues: A. Human Resources

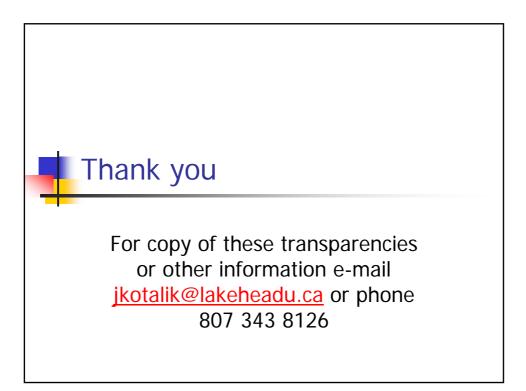
- Health care professionals have a strong obligation to serve during a pandemic in spite of increased risks.
- Institutions and governments have a corresponding obligation to provide the best available protective measures and training, support, insurance and licensing.
- There is an urgent need for education, discussion and commitment-building among health care workers.
- Mandatory measures will have to be proven necessary and workable.

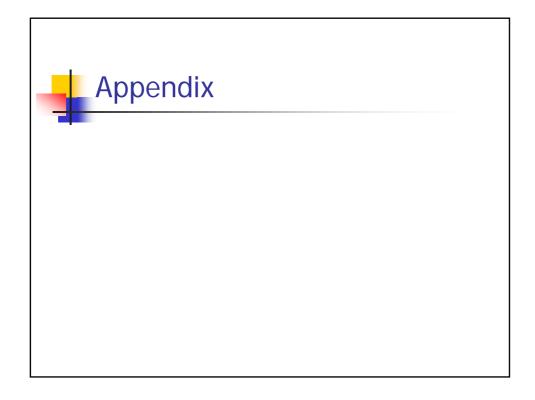


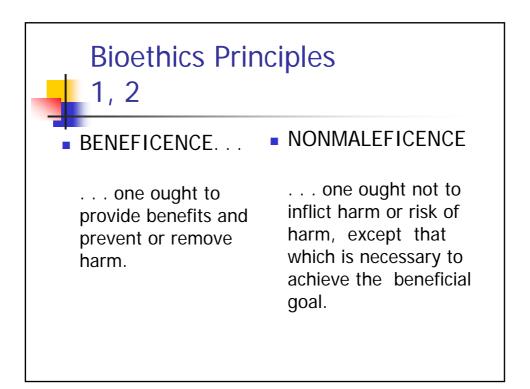


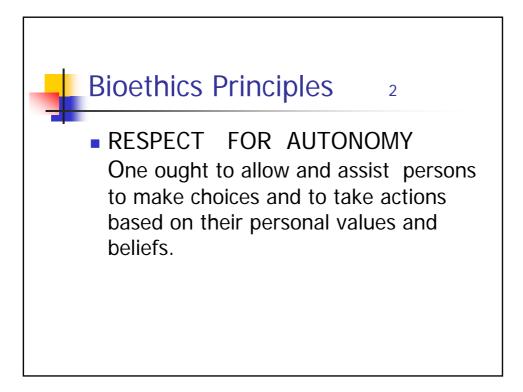


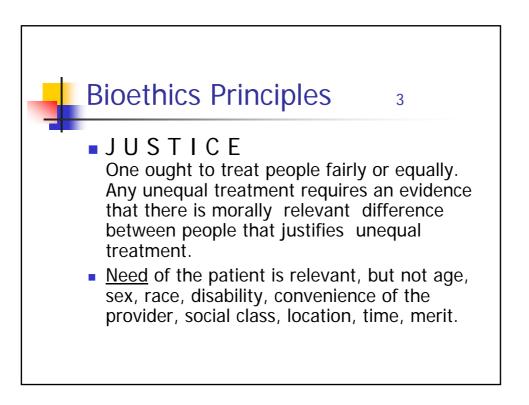


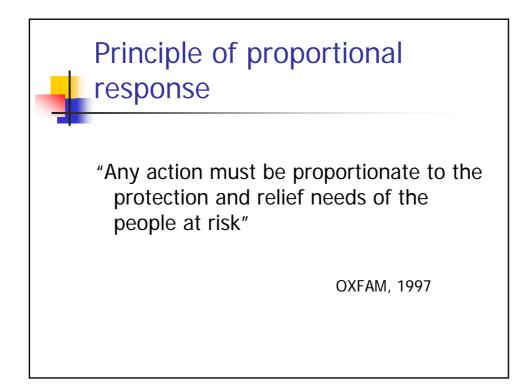


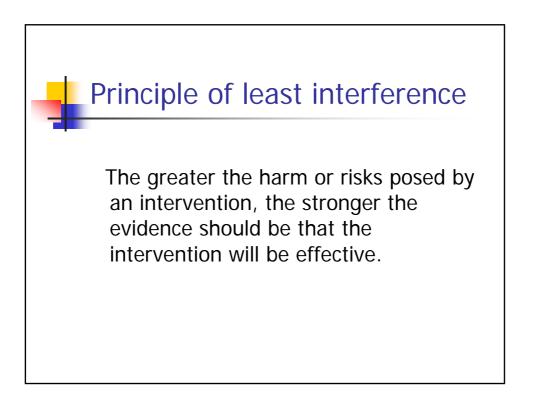






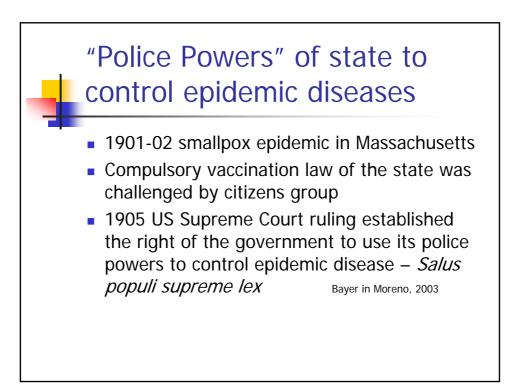






Principle (Ideal) of impartiality

- All human beings are of equal moral worth and therefore we cannot treat some people worse than others if the differences between them are not morally relevant (sex, race, religions...)
- In contrast to the attitude of <u>partiality</u>, e.g. favoring friends, family, social group....)



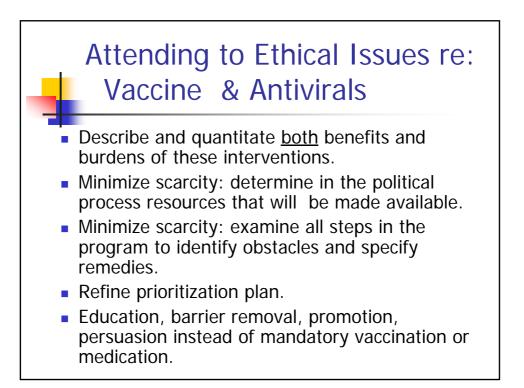




Mandatory vaccination

"Mandatory vaccination should not be based on the authority of the medical profession alone, but need to be rooted in social and political decisions of society, mostly through government."

European Commission Research Projects on ethical, legal and social aspects of vaccine research and vaccination policies, 2002.



Attending to Ethical Issues Conclusions

- Consider a new approach to scarcity: evidence- based, economical analysis, political process, prioritization based on utility & justice.
- Assure cooperation and avoid forceful measures by communication and education to start now.
- This plan is a major national achievement and deserve publication.