

Bangladesh Journal of Bioethics
Vol 9 issue 3 2018

Editorial

Welcome to all readers of the BJB Vol 9 issue 3, 2018! The BJB team together with authors, reviewers and well-wishers have contributed their all-out support to bring out this issue despite many challenges. This issue spans several topics of Bioethics beginning from complementary feeding patterns, ethical beliefs and vaccine, the regulatory documents related to pharmaceutical promotion in Bangladesh and Intimate Partner Violence. All these topics are very important for Bangladesh as well other countries.

Fatema Johora¹ and Md Sayedur Rahman in the paper titled “Pharmaceutical Promotion in Bangladesh: Assessing the strength of Regulatory Documents” observed that pharmaceutical promotion is a negative force for prescribing. The authors found that there were few regulatory initiatives to overcome this unwanted influence. Their research was conducted to review the regulatory documents related to pharmaceutical promotion in Bangladesh including Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (CPMP), and to compare CPMP with different global guidelines. Though the guidelines showed efforts to regulate promotion, enforcement of these guidelines varied. The authors recommended the need for clear, well-defined ethical and legal prohibitions, and punishment for violations and an setting up of an agency with defined authority as crucial.

The paper by Abu Sadat Mohammad Nurunnabi, Miliva Mozaffor, Mohammad Akram Hossai and Sadia Akther Sony ,titled, “Mass Vaccination Programme: Public Health Success And Ethical Issues – Bangladesh Perspective” looks the ethical issues involved in mass vaccination programme and challenges in public health programmes in Bangladesh. This is because ethical issues like informed consent, benefits vs. risks, and disparities in access to vaccination are closely related to vaccination programmes. The authors’ concluded that related ethical issues be closely reviewed when starting any mass vaccination programme.

In the paper titled “Intimate Partner Violence in Bangladesh: A Scoping Review” by Jhantu Bakchi , Satyajit Kundu, Subarna Ghosh, and Sumaiya Akter an attempt has been made to study the different literatures related to Intimate Partner Violence in Bangladesh. The authors found that the main risk factors of IPV in Bangladesh were women being younger, from low socioeconomic reputation, from low academic attainment and low education of husband, child marriage, and other issues arising from the key role of women’s empowerment. The authors’ concluded that with increasing empowerment of women could be crucial for developing interventions to reduce IPV and its consequences.

In the paper titled “Levels and Determinants of Complementary Feeding Pattern Exclusive of Minimum Meal Frequency and Dietary Diversity among Children of 6 to 23 Months in Bangladesh” the authors Naznin Pervin, Darryl Macer and Shamima P. Lasker estimate the level of complementary feeding pattern (CFP) among children between 6 to 23 months to identify the determinants in individual, household and community level in Bangladesh. The authors found that more than 95% of the children experienced either no (2.9%) or inadequate (92.7%) CFP level. Disaggregated data revealed that CFP was lower among children of the youngest age group, uneducated parents, unemployed/laborer fathers, socio-economically poor families, food insecure families and rural areas. Limited exposure to mass media revealed meaningful associations with CFP. The authors observed that is ethical to improve the overall situation of CFP in Bangladesh by the government and other concerned stakeholders

Wishing all a safe and healthy time and looking forward to your continued contributions and support.

Warm Regards

Professor Dr. Tahera Ahmed

Editor