

MEDICAL ETHICS, LOCAL WISDOM AND PROFESSIONALISM

Sajid Darmadipura

Abstract

Recently the problem of profession, professional, professionalism, and ethics in medicine have been attracting much the public, the media, the professionals, and even also the medical practitioners. This may be stimulated by several cases involving medical professionals exposed by the press, originating from the decreasing comprehension on the above named terms. The line differentiating profession from business is too becoming vague. Professionalism that should contain also high ethical moral standards and humanitarian values beside the knowledge and skill is decreasing in comprehension among the medical practitioner and other professionals in general. A clear normative definition of each of those terms is needed. As Indonesian physicians, we should refer and apply the basic principles stated in Pancasila, i.e. the philosophical moral basis of the Indonesia foundation in providing medical and health service. Further our reflections go on to whether the principles of Pancasila can replace the ethical principles of Bioethics, the western concept. Accepting the western completely would likely mean accepting the cultural imperialism, while replacing the western values or principles totally is unnecessary considering that many of the western conform our local wisdom.

Keywords: Profession, professionalism, medical ethics, Pancasila, local wisdom, transculturalism and value reciprocity.

Affiliasi Penulis : Guru besar ilmu bedah saraf Fakultas Kedokteran Universitas Airlangga, **Korespondensi :** Sajid Darmadipura, email : sjdarmipura@yahoo.com,
