Health Care Ethics: Principles and Problems

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This clear, accessible text/reference explores the full range of contemporary issues in health care ethics from a practical wisdom approach. The authors present the fundamental concerns of modern medical ethics—autonomy, beneficence, justice, and confidentiality—and then provide analysis, cases, and insights from professional literature to discuss them. Throughout, the discussion starts with larger issues or concepts and principles and then focuses on specific problems or complications.
Work has been done to clarify and improve the philosophical reflections that provide the context for the discussion of both principles and problems in the field. Further, we have attempted to provide a natural and unified discussion of the problems associated with the still contentious issues surrounding the end of life. To give added perspective we have provided occasional interludes on insights offered from cultural traditions that are not usually understood to be part of the mainstream discussion of American medical ethics.