Case Seminars in Contemporary Psychotherapy Ethics

Discussant and Presenter—**John Sadler, M.D**.

Dr. Sadler is the Daniel W. Foster, MD Professor of Medical Ethics and a Professor of Psychiatry & Clinical Sciences at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. Dr. Sadler co-edits, with K. W. M. Fulford, the Johns Hopkins University Press Journal Philosophy, Psychiatry, & Psychology, and with Fulford, Giovanni Stanghellini, and Katherine Morris, co-edits the Oxford University Press book series International Perspectives in Philosophy and Psychiatry. One of the founders of the Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry, Sadler is the organization's Treasurer. Long fascinated by the philosophical and conceptual issues in psychiatric diagnosis, Sadler is the author of Values and Psychiatric Diagnosis (Oxford University Press, 2005), editor of Descriptions and Prescriptions: Values, Mental Disorders, and the DSMs (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002), and co-edited (with Osborne Wiggins and Michael A. Schwartz) Philosophical Perspectives on Psychiatric Diagnostic Classification (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994). His collaborative book (with Jennifer Radden, PhD) is The Virtuous Psychiatrist: Character Ethics in Psychiatric Practice (Oxford University Press, 2010). He most recently co-edited *The Oxford Handbook of Psychotherapy Ethics.* with Trachsel M, Gaab J, Biller-Andorno N, Tekin S, Sadler J.Z. (Eds.) (2021). Oxford University Press.

This session will discuss a series of psychotherapy ethics cases with members of DSPP.The cases will be prepared in advance and linked to both novel dilemmas encountered today, as well as perennial ethical challenges in psychotherapy practice.

Melissa Wallace, MD: *Only in Texas*

Carla Pulliam, PhD: *Still crazy after all these years? When treatment and illness look strikingly similar*

Susana Lampley, MD: *Ethical dilemmas of treatment in a forensic hospital*

Nathaniel Strenger, PsyD: *Fallen angels everywhere: A case of religious experience.*

Aekta Malhotra, MD: *Ethical issues in the use of psychedelics*

Learning Objectives:

At the end of this seminar, participants should be able to:

1. Identify six common ethical problems encountered in psychotherapy practice, and sketch approaches to them.
2. Identify and discuss how political polarization and extremism can pose ethical problems in psychotherapy practice.
3. Sketch some common examples of appropriate and inappropriate impositions of values on patients by therapists.
4. Describe the role of virtue theory and practice in psychotherapy ethics.
5. Describe ethical issues associated with legislative restraints on clinical practice.

Reference:

Trachsel M, Gaab J, Biller-Andorno N, Tekin S, Sadler J.Z. (Eds.) (2021). *The Oxford Handbook of Psychotherapy Ethics.* Oxford: Oxford University Press.