

عنوان مقاله:

The Ebola Crisis: Emergence of Cosmopolitan Solidarity as a New Principle in Global Health Ethics

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خلاصه مقاله:

Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) or Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever was recognized in mid 1970s in some African countries including near the Ebola River in Congo. In the recent outbreaks of the disease the virus caused more serious effects on individual patients and also affected countries. Since the invasive function of the virus, it can kill around half of the infected people. This is not the only dangerous criterion of the virus since it is extremely communicable even up to 7 weeks after recovery of survived patients. At the time of 2014 outbreak except some supportive care such as rehydration and symptom therapies, there was no licensed treatment or approved vaccines for the disease, although now there are at least one approved vaccine and some others under trial. EVD outbreak raised many ethical concerns including those related to the ethical justifiability for use of unregistered treatments, unapproved pre/post exposure prophylaxis, priority setting for receiving the supportive care and few and scarce available treatments such as the antibody derived from the survivors' blood, border screening/detention of infected people for preventing the outbreak to be uncontrolled and some other questions. These ethical concerns are usually responded and analyzed by modern ethical assessment tools such as Four-Principle Approach, introduced by Beauchamp and Childress, by using technics such as specification and balancing. In addition the importance of taking social dimension into serious consideration in such situations is a well-recognized socio-ethical aspect, such as engagement of families, NGOs and Charities. But the scope and the nature of the recent international health crisis like SARS, ZIKA, MERS, H1N1 Flu and specially EVD showed that a new framework for ethical evaluation and response is required. For the first time in the history of UN, the Security Council held an emergency meeting in September 2014 (2177), which recognized EVD as a threat for international peace and security. This connection between EVD as a health crisis on one side and UN Security Council as the international peacekeeper on the other side provides us a very interesting case for discussing the issue of health and peace. This paper will try to discuss the new universal ethical platform, which is necessary for responding similar coming situations based on the principle of Cosmopolitan Solidarity.

کلمات کلیدی:

Health, Peace, Ebola, Ethics, Cosmopolitan Solidarity

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