

Expanding Boundaries of Health Law: Access, Innovation and Interdisciplinarity

Theme 1 – Equitable access to healthcare

- Structural and systemic barriers (e.g., affordability, access for remote or hard-to-reach communities, health literacy gaps, unequal access to digital technologies)
- Access in low- and middle-income countries (e.g., legal strategies for scaling health services, patent law vs. equitable access to essential medicines)
- Balancing individual and collective rights (e.g., patient autonomy vs. public health measures such as vaccination mandates and compulsory treatment for mental illness or substance abuse)
- Culturally appropriate care (e.g., non-Western healing traditions, preferences of persons with a migrant background, religious practices, language barriers)

Theme 2 – Technology & legal innovation

- Artificial Intelligence in healthcare (e.g., diagnostics, clinical decision support, liability)
- Health data governance (e.g., health data sharing, health data portability, compliance with European Health Data Space and General Data Protection Regulations)
- Care outside the hospital (e.g., remote monitoring, mobile health)
- Robotics and digital therapeutics (e.g., robotic surgery, smart pills)
- Genomic medicine (e.g., gene editing, legal status of genetic data)
- Third party reproduction and embryo research (e.g., surrogacy, gamete donation, embryo models and embryo-like structures, organoids, 14-day rule)
- Emerging biotechnologies (e.g., neurotechnology, nanomedicine)
- Transgender & intersex care (e.g., legal recognition, access to care, rights of minors)

Theme 3 – Intersections between health law and other disciplines of law

- Legal medicine (e.g., forensic evidence, expert testimony, autopsy law, status of body parts, protection of the corpse, body donation to science)
- Hospital law (hospital governance, financing, Infrastructure regulation, disaster preparedness)
- Gender and health law (gender equality in healthcare access, inclusion on medical research, violence against women, maternal rights vs. foetal interests)
- Sports law (e.g., doping regulation, concussion protocols, athlete health protections)
- Insurance law (e.g., status and duties of insurance company physicians, medical confidentiality, coverage disputes, prevention)
- Tort law (e.g., medical malpractice, hospital liability, loss of a chance, defensive medicine)
- Criminal law (e.g., unauthorised medical practice, healthcare fraud, euthanasia and assisted suicide, abortion)
- Pharmaceutical law (e.g., clinical trials, off-label use, patent disputes, drug approval processes, market access)
- Travel law (e.g., cross-border healthcare, medical tourism regulation)

- **Migration law** (e.g., healthcare rights of undocumented migrants)
- **Military law** (e.g., battlefield triage, combatant health rights, medical experimentation on military personnel)
- **Competition law** (e.g., pharma monopolies, antitrust issues, market distortions in healthcare)
- **Disciplinary law** (e.g., professional misconduct, license revocation)
- **Tax law** (e.g., VAT on medical services, cross-border healthcare and taxation, tax incentives for medical innovation)
- **Discrimination law** (e.g., age discrimination in access to healthcare, religious exemptions, disability rights in healthcare, gender discrimination)
- **Human rights law** (e.g., right to health, mental health protections in detention, involuntary treatment and placement)
- **Constitutional law** (e.g., recognition of healthcare as a constitutional right, abortion as a constitutional right)
- **Global health law** (e.g., international health treaties, pandemic governance, prevention)