Historical Ethics and Landmark Cases

Ethics · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. Which 1947 document established ten principles for human experimentation, serving as a direct response to the atrocities discovered during the Doctors' Trial at Nuremberg?

A) The Helsinki Declaration
B) The Nuremberg Code
C) The Belmont Report
D) The Geneva Convention

2. In 1972, the U.S. government was exposed for a 40-year study that withheld syphilis treatment from African American men. What is the official name of this study?

A) The Tuskegee Syphilis Study
B) The Willowbrook Study
C) The Milgram Experiment
D) The Stanford Prison Experiment

3. The 1964 Declaration of Helsinki, developed by the World Medical Association, introduced the requirement that research protocols must be reviewed by which entity?

A) A government legislative body
B) A secular morality committee
C) An independent ethics committee
D) A clinical peer-review board

4. Which 1979 report served as the foundational document for the ethical treatment of human subjects in U.S. biomedical and behavioral research?

A) The Belmont Report
B) The Declaration of Geneva
C) The Tokyo Declaration
D) The CIOMS Guidelines

5. What is the historical significance of the 'Codex Hammurabi' regarding professional ethics?

A) It established the first democratic voting rights
B) It outlined specific penalties for medical malpractice
C) It prohibited the use of slave labor
D) It defined the divine right of kings

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6. The 'Tarasoff v. Regents of the University of California' (1976) case fundamentally altered the ethical duty of mental health professionals by establishing what obligation?

A) The duty to provide free treatment
B) The duty to maintain total client anonymity
C) The duty to warn potential victims of violence
D) The duty to report all criminal history

7. Which 19th-century figure established the 'Florence Nightingale Pledge', which is often cited as the first modern nursing code of ethics?

A) Lystra Gretter
B) Clara Barton
C) Dorothea Dix
D) Mary Seacole

8. The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights was drafted primarily under the leadership of which diplomat?

A) Eleanor Roosevelt
B) Dag Hammarskjöld
C) Ralph Bunche
D) René Cassin

9. In the history of environmental ethics, the 1962 publication of 'Silent Spring' by Rachel Carson is historically credited with influencing which major policy shift?

A) The ban on ozone-depleting substances
B) The creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
C) The signing of the Kyoto Protocol
D) The global moratorium on whaling

10. The 'Hippocratic Oath' historically contains a specific prohibition against which practice?

A) Performing surgery on royal family members
B) Administering lethal drugs or causing abortion
C) Charging fees for medical instruction
D) Disclosing the cause of death to the family

11. Which 1995 report, chaired by Baroness Nolan, established the 'Seven Principles of Public Life' for UK government officials?

A) The Westminster Review
B) The Nolan Principles
C) The Whitehall Ethics Code
D) The Parliamentary Standards Report

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12. The 'Declaration of Geneva' (1948) was adopted as an amendment and modernization of which historical ethical document?

A) The Hippocratic Oath
B) The Magna Carta
C) The Justinian Code
D) The Socratic Method

13. In 1974, the U.S. National Research Act created the National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects primarily due to public outcry over which event?

A) The thalidomide tragedy
B) The Tuskegee Syphilis Study
C) The launch of the Manhattan Project
D) The development of the first artificial heart

14. The 1925 Geneva Protocol, following the horrors of World War I, focused on banning which specific ethical violation in warfare?

A) Use of chemical and biological weapons
B) Targeting of civilian hospitals
C) Use of long-range ballistic missiles
D) Recruitment of child soldiers

15. The 'Socratic Method' of inquiry was historically documented in the dialogues of which philosopher to explore ethical concepts?

A) Aristotle
B) Plato
C) Epicurus
D) Zeno

16. The 1975 Declaration of Tokyo explicitly prohibited medical personnel from participating in which specific practice?

A) Compulsory organ donation
B) Human cloning research
C) Torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment
D) Capital punishment assistance

17. Which historical organization adopted the 'Code of Ethics for Engineers' in 1914, representing one of the first formal engineering ethics codes?

A) The American Institute of Electrical Engineers
B) The Institution of Civil Engineers
C) The Royal Society of Engineering
D) The International Federation of Engineers

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18. The 1947 'Potsdam Agreement' included ethical mandates regarding the treatment of displaced persons, following the total collapse of which state?

A) The Austro-Hungarian Empire
B) The Third Reich
C) The Ottoman Empire
D) The Soviet Union

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