

The Department of Law at the University of Cyprus kindly invites you to a research seminar on

‘Equality in the Planning Stage of Commissioning Healthcare Services for Older Patients in the NHS: A Justice Perspective’

Wednesday, 18 September 2024 at 18:00-19:15

by Dr. Yvoni Komodromou

Chair: Assistant Professor Dr. Alina Tryfonidou

Abstract

Increased research highlights the financial strain placed on healthcare systems due to rising levels of health needs, becoming more prominent through the ever-increasing ‘elderly’ population. This strain leads to difficult decisions having to be made, with calls for rationing resources based on age, which can negatively affect older patients. A key question, therefore, concerns the extent to which justice is achieved for older patients in healthcare resource allocation decisions. Justice, in this work, takes on a three-dimensional approach, through the creation of a justice lens consisting of redistribution, procedural justice, and recognition. This lens is used to assess the Public Sector Equality Duty’s (PSED’s) role within the commissioning of healthcare services, and its aim to eliminate age discrimination. This assessment finds that the legal framework surrounding the equality duty does not satisfy the justice lens. This work, therefore, develops a guide on the implementation of the PSED, comprising elements fulfilling all three dimensions of the justice lens in healthcare resource allocation decision-making. This research also evaluates the healthcare resource allocation processes of Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) regarding the PSED, through this guide, to ascertain whether they achieve justice for older patients in practice. The evaluation finds deficiencies in the CCG’s delivery of the PSED in decision-making and provides suggestions to ensure justice for this population group. Ultimately, this work develops an allocation guide seeking justice for older patients when implementing the PSED.

Speaker Bio

Yvoni Komodromou is currently a Lecturer at London Metropolitan University. She received her PhD from Queen Mary University of London in May 2024. Her thesis focuses on the extent to which justice is being achieved for older patients in the NHS, regarding healthcare resource allocation. She also holds a Masters of Law (LLM) in Health Law and Bioethics from the University of Minnesota (2018), and an LLB from the University of Reading (2017). She has taught Criminal Law at Queen Mary University of London. At London Metropolitan University she teaches on courses relating to human rights law and legal research. She is also a Staff Examiner at the University of London. Yvoni’s main research area is in Health Law, with a special interest on the law relating to healthcare resource allocation, specifically centring on this allocation’s effects on older people. Her work focuses on a justice-led approach in healthcare resource allocation. She has plans to extend her research to people with other protected characteristics such as race and gender.

Practical Details

Language: The seminar will be conducted in English

Registration: Please register for the Zoom meeting following [this link](#).