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## On Becoming De-Centered in Health Care: *Learning From the Military's Experience of Moral Injury & Formulating Recommendations for Health Care Professionals* Webinar #T5009

### DATE AND TIME

January 25, 2018  
9:30 - 10:30 a.m. CT

### OVERVIEW

Numerous reports from health professionals in the United States who treat warriors returned from combat in the Middle East describe a phenomenon now called "moral injury." This condition occurs in addition to post-traumatic stress disorder and is characterized as intensely unpleasant feelings of worthlessness and shame in having witnessed or in being complicitous with moral atrocities during the Middle East crisis. The psychological architecture of moral injury is constituted by feelings of 1) profoundly deflated and injured self-esteem, 2) unnerving lack of control over one's life, and 3) persistent feelings of endangerment. If a "centered life" is one admitting enjoyment of and satisfaction with one's life situation along with feeling able to realize it, then moral injury connotes the opposite. As such, de-centered lives that admit significant moral injury spin out of control and often become either personally or interpersonally destructive.

This presentation will theorize that health professionals witness a less devastating but nevertheless extremely serious variant of this by way of a variety of situations involving working with disruptive and defiant family members, experiencing workplace bullying, encountering allegations of harm-causing medical error, and facing impossible production pressures and quotas. We will examine each of these at some length and discuss their effects on health professionals. The talk will conclude with strategies whereby the intensity of these threats might be lessened and managed in healthy ways that restore some sense of centeredness to health care professionals.

### OBJECTIVES

1. Differentiate the ideas of moral injury and moral de-centeredness.
2. List examples of de-centering elements in health care environments.
3. Discuss ways to prevent the chronic and persistent experience of de-centeredness in health care.

### TARGET AUDIENCE

This session is recommended for all healthcare personnel.

### FACULTY

#### John D. Banja, PhD, Professor

Department of Rehabilitation Medicine and Medical Ethics  
Center for Ethics, Emory University

Dr. John Banja also directs the Section on Ethics for the Atlanta Clinical and Translational Science Institute at Emory. Dr. Banja has conducted research and educational projects with numerous federal and private organizations. He currently serves as the editor of the *American Journal of Bioethics-Neuroscience*. His research interests include patient safety, neuroethics and ethical dilemmas occurring in clinical and translational research. His most recent book, *Medical Errors and Medical Narcissism*, was published in 2005. Dr. Banja has no real or perceived conflicts of interest that relate to this presentation.

### PRICE

\$195 per connection for members.

\$390 per connection for non-members.

Note: The fee is for one phone line with unlimited participants. For example, 10 employees can participate for only \$19.50 ea!

#### For more information contact:

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