

NST2BBS  
Natural Sciences Tripos Part II: Biological and Biomedical Sciences

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Wednesday 6 June 2018 09.00–12.00

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## **Paper 45**

### **Philosophy and Ethics of Medicine**

*You should answer **four** questions in total. Answer **at least one** question from Section A and **at least one** question from Section B. All questions carry equal weighting.*

*Begin each answer on a separate sheet.*

*Write legibly and on only **one** side of the paper.*

*Answers must be tied up in separate bundles, marked 1, 2, 3, etc. according to the number of the question.*

*Attach a completed coversheet to each bundle and complete a master coversheet listing all questions attempted. It is essential that you write your examination number and **not** your name on the coversheet and on **each** bundle.*

**You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so by the invigilator.**

## SECTION A: Philosophy of Medicine

1. Can medicine rely on evidence from animal experiments to make inferences about the effectiveness of interventions in humans?
2. Compare the Bayesian model of scientific inference with the frequentist model of scientific inference. Which is superior?
3. What, if anything, is the right definition of disease?
4. Can health be measured by eliciting preferences?
5. Is comparative process tracing a reliable method for extrapolation?
6. Should randomised trials be the gold standard for clinical research?
7. Does cost-effectiveness analysis using Quality Adjusted Life Years discriminate against people with disabilities?

## SECTION B: Ethics of Medicine

8. Can one consistently be pro-choice and a vegetarian?
9. Should doctors ever kill terminally ill patients?
10. Should we ban cigarettes?
11. Intellectual property should be eliminated in medical research. Discuss.
12. Informed consent is important in both research and treatment contexts, but is it important for the same reasons?
13. Is the argument from inductive risk compelling?
14. Are cancer screening policies that target large, "moderate risk" groups unethical?

**END OF PAPER**