



# Age-Based Inequalities in Health and Health Care: An Ethics Framework

**Date:** 15 July 2016 (Friday)  
**Time:** 4:00 – 5:45 p.m.  
**Venue:** Room 201, Yasumoto International Academic Park (YIA)  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin  
(5 mins walk from the University MTR Station)  
**Registration:** <http://www.med.cuhk.edu.hk/registration/view.php?id=254816>  
All are Welcome (Free Admission)

## Abstract

How should health care systems prepare to care for growing numbers and proportions of older people? Older people generally suffer worse health than younger people do. Should societies take steps to reduce age-based *health* inequalities? Some express concern that doing so would increase age-based inequalities in *health care*. This paper addresses this debate by (1) considering two competing conceptions of age group justice, luck egalitarianism and social relational egalitarianism, and arguing that each provides a necessary, but not a sufficient, condition for age group justice; (2) putting forth a third condition that offers a more complete account; and (3) arguing that these principles apply not to whole lives or to each moment or “time slice,” but to each stage of persons’ lives. Throughout the paper, I draw out the implications of this analysis for health care systems reform.

## Speaker - PROF. NANCY S. JECKER



Nancy S. Jecker, PHD is an internationally renowned bioethicist. She is Professor of Bioethics at the University of Washington School of Medicine, Department of Bioethics and Humanities, and Adjunct Professor at the School of Law and Department of Philosophy. Her research addresses age group and intergenerational justice, health care allocation, withholding and withdrawing treatment, and ethical theory. Dr. Jecker has published over 100 papers on bioethics and philosophy, coauthored (with LJ Schneiderman) of *Wrong Medicine, 2nd edition* (Johns Hopkins University Press 2011 and Taiwan Ho-Chi Book Publishing Company 2015), and coedited (with AR Jonsen and RA Pearlman) of *Bioethics, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition* (Jones and Bartlett 2011).