Information, Truth, and Communication. For an Interpretation of Truth-telling Practices throughout the World
Discusses ethical issues relating to truth telling, including patient preferences, family requests, placebo, and potential harm. Guidelines provided for different religious or cultural beliefs. Do patients want to know the truth about their condition? How much do patients need to be told? What if the truth could be harmful? What if the patient's family asks me to withhold the truth from the patient? When is it justified for me to withhold the truth from a patient? What about patients with different specific religious or cultural beliefs? Is it justifiable to deceive a patient with a placebo? When physicians communicate with patients, being honest is an important way to foster trust and show respect for the patient. PDF | Accompanied with various opinions across cultures, truth telling is a major debate in bioethics. Many studies have focused on attitudes toward truth disclosure. We intend to review several relevant research studies, and discuss the issue through a clinical case... 2. In fact the information is disclosed to him and he asks you not to tell his wife the truth and to tell her only that she has anemia and needs hospitalization and treatment.