

Volume 6, No. 1 (Supplement)

June 2011

ISSN 1823-2140

The National University
with an INTERNATIONAL REACH



UNIVERSITI
KEBANGSAAN
MALAYSIA
National University of Malaysia

MEDICINE & Health

The Official Journal of The Faculty of Medicine UKM

7th Malaysia Indonesia Brunei Medical Sciences Conference "TOWARDS A HOLISTIC AND INTEGRATIVE APPROACH IN HEALTHCARE"



22nd - 24th July 2011

Equatorial Hotel, Bangi, Selangor,
MALAYSIA

officiated by

Y.B Datuk Rosnah Haji Abdul Rashid Shirlin
Deputy Minister of Health Malaysia

Organised by



SILENT MENTOR AS A MODEL IN MEDICAL EDUCATION AND ITS ETHICAL AND MEDICOLEGAL ASPECTS

Djaja SA¹, Evi U²

¹*Department of Forensic Medicine and Medicolegal, Faculty of Medicine, University of Indonesia*

²*Cengkareng General Hospital, West Jakarta, Indonesia*

Background:

For many decades, the students of various disciplines in postgraduate medical education in Indonesia were studying the operation procedures by using animals, mannequins or even patients in their education. In the last few years, the operation trainings have also used the cadavers of unknown persons, found dead and sent to the hospitals by the police. However, over time, the unknown bodies are decreasing in number. The Silent Mentor concept was then introduced as a solution, by using experience of the Silent Mentor in the Republic of China. In this concept, a mentally capable volunteer makes a Will, with or without the witness of lawyer, stating that he/she will give his/her body for medical education purposes after his/her death.

Results and discussion

In the human right there is the right to self determination, that means that every individual has the right to decide whatever should be done to his/her own body, however there is still controversy whether this right includes also the right to give his/her own body for the Silent Mentor after his/her death. Legally, usually every person has a right to give his/her inheritances to the joint heirs, but it is limited only to the goods, not the body. In some cultures and religions, the body is the object for religious and cultural ceremonies, and at the end the body must be buried or cremated. It still debatable whether the will of a person to become a Silent Mentor can be rejected or denied by others. It still cannot be predicted whether this can be executed when the time comes, except this right is regulated in an Act or any kind of Law.

Key words:

Silent Mentor; education; medical ethic; medico-legal aspect