

Philosophy, Politics and Economics of Health

Master in Philosophy of Science

Philippe van Basshuysen

25 November 2021

Week 6 – Responsibility and Health

1. **The case for responsibility in healthcare**

*Define “public good”, “moral hazard” and the “tragedy of the commons”.*

*Why might it make sense to take responsibility into account when allocating healthcare?*

*Should a person’s decision to refuse vaccination against COVID-19 without good reason be taken into account when it comes to triage?*

1. **Responsibility over time and across agents**

*What are the preconditions for the attribution of responsibility of health outcomes that a person has, according to Brown and Savulescu?*

*Why is the fact that many health-related choices are diachronic relevant for the responsibility of disease?*

*Why might our relationships with others be relevant for assigning responsibility? Is this convincing?*

*How might diachronic and dyadic responsibility be enhanced? Would this be a sensible thing to do?*

*Can a member of a dyad be held responsible for the illness of the other member?*

1. **Next Week: Budgets, the Scope of Funded Care Packages, and Waiting**

*Readings:*

Alex Voorhoeve, “May a Government Mandate more Comprehensive Health Insurance than Citizens want for themselves?” In *Oxford Studies in Political Philosophy Volume 4* (required)

Tyler M. John and Joseph Millum, “First Come, First Served?” (recommended)