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WHITE LIE' IN MEDICAL PRACTICE FROM PERSPECTIVE OF SELECTED ETHICAL THEORIES

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Does a medical practitioner have a moral obligation to mislead a patient about his condition, if he has subjective certainty, that revealing the truth to the patient may harm him even more? Or, perhaps the practitioner is always bound to fully inform the patient about true state of his health? Idea that pertains to those questions is, in its nature, achronic. It has accompanied medicine since its birth and has also become an issue pondered by philosophers. Over the course of centuries, various ethical fundamentals have been created by social and historical contexts. Their purpose was to evaluate the so called 'white lie'. The intention of this article is to classify and describe main ethical concepts, within which a solution to this issue has been sought for.