

<h2 style="text-align: center;">THE ETHICS OF OUTPATIENT COVID SHUTDOWNS IN MICHIGAN</h2>	
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<h2 style="text-align: center;">Overview</h2> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;">  The Court Case <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;">  The Ethics  The Conclusion
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<h2 style="text-align: center;">Michigan COVID-19 timeline</h2>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3/10/2020: first two COVID-19 cases confirmed; state of emergency declared • 3/13/2020: K-12 schools close and gatherings over 250 are banned • 3/16/2020: many businesses, like bars, restaurants, gyms, cafés closed • 3/21/2020: all non-essential surgeries postponed or cancelled • 3/23/2020: stay-at-home order for all non-essential workers • 4/24/2020: stay-at-home order extended though some restrictions are lifted on certain businesses; death toll surpasses 3,000 • 5/29/2020: healthcare providers allowed to resume non-essential medical treatments and dental procedures

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<h2 style="text-align: center;">The Court Case</h2>
<p style="font-size: small;">Goal: declare Gov Whitmer's executive orders unconstitutional, allow healthcare facilities to reopen for "non-essential" procedures</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Filed by: Grand Health Partners (GR), Wellston Medical Center (Wellston), Primary Health Services (Ludington) + Jeffery Gulick (Owosso resident, knee replacement surgery)</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Also sued by state House and Senate for extending state of emergency on 4/30/2020 to 5/28/2020 without legislative vote of support</p>

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<h2 style="text-align: center;">THE ETHICS</h2>

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<h2 style="text-align: center;">The Dilemmas</h2>
<p style="font-size: small;">Providing the best patient care vs responsibility to community health.</p> <p style="font-size: small;">What is deemed non-essential may profoundly impact a patient's life.</p> <p style="font-size: small;">How long do we wait to provide non-essential care and what of preventable complications that may arise?</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Mental health, suicide and access to non-essential care.</p>

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"I routinely provide medical care that will prevent worsening health problems down the line. What looks like something non-essential in the eyes of a politician or government bureaucrat can actually be very essential to a patient's overall current health and future health."

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"And while it might not seem all that pressing, some people in need of hip- or knee-replacement surgery are in so much pain, it affects all aspects of their lives. Waiting can be excruciating."

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"[The] governor's orders prevented him from getting regular treatment for his diabetes. By the time he came to me, he was in a full-on medical emergency... an odor coming from his foot — [it was] gangrene. His kidneys were in full-blown failure... We rushed him to the nearest hospital, but it was too late. His foot had to be amputated. And then, just days later, he died from complications."

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"The research literature indicates that the impact of economic downturn, isolation/quarantine, increased substance use, insomnia, and lack of community gatekeepers, among other factors, could all lead to increased deaths by suicide"

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THE CONCLUSION

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"In Monday's ruling, which is another 4-3 ruling along partisan lines, the high court reversed a 2-1 decision of the Michigan Court of Appeals that said Whitmer could use the Emergency Powers of Governor Act to address the coronavirus pandemic."

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"We must keep our guard up. You can be a Democrat or a Republican, you can support orders or oppose them. The virus does not care, and it is growing. So we have to respond based on the science, and that's what our actions this week have done," Gordon said.

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Future considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lasting impacts of delayed "non-essential" medical care • Public's opinion and trust in government • Mental health consequences • Future of relationship between medical professionals and policy makers

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"Five values seem likely: prudence, safety, security, moral imagination, and flexibility."

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