



MEDIZINISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
INNSBRUCK



**Zümrüt ALPINAR SENCAN, Ph.D.**

**Department of Medical Ethics and History of Medicine,  
University Medical Center, Göttingen**

**Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 13:30 – 14:30**

**Seminar room M01.392, CCB, Innrain 80, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**

## **Stakeholders' attitudes towards dementia risk testing and early diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease:**

### **Insights from a Cross-Cultural Study**

The availability of a test that would predict the likelihood of developing Alzheimer's dementia (AD) is a thrilling possibility. By the advances in biomarkers and developments in predictive medicine, identifying persons at high risk for developing late-onset AD may soon be possible even before the initial symptoms appear. However, dementia risk information is accompanied by moral and psychosocial dilemmas. In this presentation, I will briefly present the outcomes of our empirical-ethical international research project titled "Stakeholders' Attitudes towards Prodromal Dementia Diagnosis: Psycho-Social and Ethical Implications in Cross-Cultural Comparison", in which we empirically explored the experiences, attitudes and concerns of main stakeholders towards dementia risk information. The presentation aims to draw attention to ethical, social and cultural implications of predictive tests.

Zümrüt Alpinar Sencan is a philosopher specializing in ethical issues in medicine. After her master's degree on expanding Rawls' Theory of Justice to fairness in health care at Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey, she did her PhD on organ selling, human dignity and its violation at the Institute of Biomedical Ethics and History of Medicine (IBME) at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. From 2015-2017, she was guest researcher in philosophy at University of Calgary, Canada. Since 2018, she is research associate at the Department of Medical Ethics and History of Medicine at University Medical Center, Göttingen. Her work is focusing on ethical and psychosocial issues in risk prediction for Alzheimer's disease by genetics and other relevant technologies. More at: <https://egmed.uni-goettingen.de/de/mitarbeiterinnen/dr-zuemruet-alpinar-sencan//>.

We gratefully acknowledge support by the Eurolife Postdoc Mobility and Knowledge Exchange Grant.

Ao.Univ.Prof.Dr. Gabriele Werner-Felmayer  
Institute of Biological Chemistry, Biocenter,  
and Bioethics Network ethucation, MUI