

**Center
for Ethics
and
Humanities
in the
Life Sciences**

Come in person



Brown Bag

Presentation & Discussion
Coffee, juice, and snacks

**C-102 East Fee Hall
MSU East Lansing campus**

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Webinar

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**bioethics.msu.edu
Brown Bag Series**

Whoopie Pies, Super-Size Fries: “Just” Snacks? “Just” Des(s)erts?

It is estimated that 35% of cancers and 94% of diabetes cases can be avoided through behavioral change. Personal choices to satisfy desires for salty snacks, cigarettes and sugary desserts can contribute to diabetes, heart disease, kidney failure or lung cancer, which impose costly consequences on others. Should a



just society tolerate, regulate, discourage, forbid or punish personal health choices that impose costs on others? Are individuals who don't protect their own health rightly judged to be acting unjustly? Would this justify Medicare or some other insurance plan denying these individuals costly life-prolonging care if their need for care was related to a persistent bad health choice?

Leonard M. Fleck, Ph.D. is Professor of Philosophy and Medical Ethics, Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences at Michigan State University. He is the author of *Just Caring: Health Care Rationing and Democratic Deliberation* (Oxford University Press, 2009). He is working on another book with the working title *Ethics, Genetics, and Public Policy at the Cutting Edge: Rough Justice and Rugged Moral Terrain*.

Wednesday, January 18 • 12:00 - 1:00 pm