

CASE CONSULTATION

The *Centre for Clinical Ethics* provides consultative services to patients, families, hospital staff, volunteers, and students on a wide range of ethical issues across the life-span. Frequently encountered issues include value conflicts around decisions such as withholding or withdrawing treatment, consent and capacity, resource allocation, and organizational ethics.

If you are facing a difficult situation and are unsure of the best course of action, we may be able to assist. Any patient, family member, staff member, volunteer, or student can contact, in confidence, the *Centre for Clinical Ethics*.

BROCHURES

The *Centre for Clinical Ethics* has developed a series of brochures for healthcare consumers and providers on the following topics:

- ❖ A Principle Based Framework for Ethical Decision Making: YODA*
- ❖ Advance Care Planning
- ❖ Capacity Assessment
- ❖ CPR: Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation
- ❖ Informed Consent to Treatment
- ❖ Power of Attorney for Personal Care
- ❖ Substitute Decision-Making

*adapted from the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada (CHAC) Health Ethics Guide

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CENTRE FOR CLINICAL ETHICS

*A joint venture of
Providence Healthcare,
St. Joseph's Health Centre
& St. Michael's Hospital*

HISTORY

In 1982, the Sisters of St. Joseph established a Clinical Ethics Service jointly sponsored by Providence Healthcare, St. Joseph's Health Centre and St. Michael's Hospital, three Catholic institutions which serve the Toronto area. The first ethics service of its kind in Canada has grown over the years and today is known as the *Centre for Clinical Ethics*.

MISSION AND VALUES

The mission of the *Centre for Clinical Ethics* is to enable members of the health care community to identify and resolve ethical issues which arise in the clinical setting. This is done through education, case consultations, policy development, and research. As a faith-based centre, our commitment is to the core values of our three supporting institutions and to broadening the understanding of the role that faith plays in the questions which confront people in their search for healing.

EDUCATION

The *Centre for Clinical Ethics* offers ethics education sessions for hospital staff, students, volunteers, and the larger community on a broad variety of ethical issues. These sessions are designed to meet the needs of participants and include:

- ❖ Interdisciplinary, Discipline-Specific, and Unit Rounds
- ❖ Ethics Grand Rounds
- ❖ Annual Conference: "Affirming an Ethic of Care"
- ❖ Workshops
- ❖ Debriefing Sessions
- ❖ Presentations to Community Groups and Hospital Staff, Students, and Volunteers at Other Healthcare Facilities
- ❖ Clinical Ethics Education for undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate University of Toronto students and fellows
- ❖ Formal classroom instruction of healthcare students, medical interns, and residents
- ❖ Access to a range of ethics journals, books and articles through the Centre's library

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The *Centre for Clinical Ethics* is a valuable resource for policy development, implementation, evaluation and review, both within the supporting institutions and the wider community. We collaborate with a variety of organizations including the Catholic Health Alliance of Canada, the Catholic Health Association of Ontario and the Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario.

RESEARCH ETHICS

The *Centre for Clinical Ethics* is an active presence on the Research Ethics Boards at each of the institutions. The purpose of the Research Ethics Board is the protection of human participants in research studies that are ongoing in each of the facilities.

SCHOLARSHIP

The *Centre for Clinical Ethics* engages in the following scholarly activities:

- ❖ Presentations at national and international conferences
- ❖ Publishing articles in peer and non-peer reviewed publications
- ❖ Research related to a number of topics such as clinical ethics effectiveness, informed consent, advance care planning, cross-cultural care, and human rights