

e-Ethics Cleveland Clinic



Advances in medical technology have spurred the field of bioethics as healthcare professionals, patients and their families struggle to negotiate the boundaries between what medicine can and should do.

Professionals across the spectrum of healthcare delivery settings confront difficult choices in patient care and immediate pressures to reach a decision.

Our Department of Bioethics has created a new program, e-Ethics Cleveland Clinic, to help others respond to ethical challenges in patient care.

Our services:

Ethics consultation – We are

available for case consultation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Using state-of-theart digital resources, we offer expertise to healthcare professionals in real time.

When should I consider a consult?

Ethics consultations may help when:

- Efforts by a patient, family and healthcare providers to resolve an ethical issue have reached an impasse
- Decisions need to be made about life-sustaining treatment for a patient lacking decision-making capacity and an appropriate surrogate decision maker
- Healthcare professions feel uncertain about their ethical obligations
- Medical researchers confront ethical challenges in designing or conducting studies

How do consultants help?

We assist by:

- Identifying and analyzing value uncertainty or conflict
- Promoting communication and a respectful atmosphere for decision making
- Recommending disputeresolution strategies
- Facilitating the process of building a principled ethical resolution

Ethics consultation is strictly advisory, meaning that we do not take over decision making. Patients, family members and healthcare professionals retain decisionmaking authority. Ethics education – We can provide

ethics education tailored to meet your healthcare organization's specific needs, whether to supplement existing ethics education or establish new curricula.

Ethics policy and program

development – Beyond consultation on specific cases, ethics consultants aim to prevent or reduce ethical conflicts from arising or recurring.

We can assist in developing:

- Effective institutional policies
- Ethics committees
- Consultation services
- Other ethics resources



Why choose e-Ethics Cleveland Clinic?

For more than 25 years, Cleveland Clinic's Department of Bioethics has supported healthcare professionals with ethics consultation, policy development and education services. Our highly trained and experienced staff conduct more than 300 consultations each year. Our expertise encompasses ethical issues arising in outpatient, inpatient and intensive care settings, and in the design and conduct of clinical trials.

In addition to serving on hospital ethics committees and institutional review boards, our consultants have a long history of advising healthcare organizations on ethics-related policy matters and program development. As academic faculty, we conduct hundreds of educational events annually, within Cleveland Clinic and its Lerner College of Medicine, and at national and international conferences.

Cleveland Clinic

e-Ethics Consultation Service

Contact us: Cleveland Clinic Department of Bioethics 216.444.8720 | clevelandclinic.org/bioethicscontact

About Cleveland Clinic's Department of Bioethics

The Department of Bioethics was founded in 1984 and is committed to quality patient care, research and education. Cleveland Clinic is a nonprofit, multispecialty academic medical center consistently ranked among the top hospitals by U.S.News & World Report. Founded in 1921, it is dedicated to providing quality specialized care and includes an outpatient clinic, a hospital with more than 1,300 staffed beds, an education institute and a research institute.

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Expert help for ethical challenges in patient care:

- 24/7 e-Ethics consultation
- Ethics education
- Ethics policy & program development

Every Life Deserves World Class Care.