**CASE 2.**

**What do we do for Ms. Lang?**

Ms. Lang is an 82-year-old woman with dementia and frailty who had a fall recently at home. She is recuperating in the rehab unit with the goal of returning her home in the care of her son, Jason. As part of her treatment plan, Ms. Lang is receiving occupational therapy. Due to a previous stroke, she has slurred speech and is difficult to understand. She often resists therapy either by swatting off the hands of the Occupational Therapist (OTs) or she cries until she is left alone. Sometimes she gets very agitated during sessions and throws things at staff with her dominant hand. At other moments she is receptive to therapy. In generally, Ms. Lang is not progressing very quickly in her rehabilitation and the OTs are receiving pressure from the clinical team to get her mobilizing as soon as possible.

She has three sons. Her eldest son, Jason, spoke to Joseph Hill, who is one of the OTs. He requested that the team no longer provide occupational therapy and prepare her for discharge home immediately. He feels his mother is becoming more disoriented and unhappy in the hospital and believes he can take better care of her at home in her familiar environment. Her youngest son, Nathan, disagrees. He feels that Ms. Lang is not safe to be discharged, is at high risk of falling again and becoming even more debilitated if she returns home before she can safely mobilize. The third son lives in BC and hasn’t been involved at all in her care.

Joseph wonders how to respond in this situation.

**Ethical Reflection Questions:**

* What stands out to you most about this situation? What is your gut response?
* What are the ethical issues in this case?
* Who are the affected parties?
* What are the information gaps (i.e. clinical or contextual information)?
* If your colleague asked you for help as an ethics champion, where would you start?