

**Regional Ethics Network**

**HEALTHCARE ETHICS BASIC COURSE SCHEDULE – Fall 2023**

**All modules and course materials are available at the Regional Ethics Network website (**[**http://regionalethicsnetwork.com/?page\_id=1344**](http://regionalethicsnetwork.com/?page_id=1344)**)**

**Passcode: ethics4all**

| **WEEKLY LEARNING PLAN** | |  |  | |  |
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|  | **Module/Topic and COP Dates** | **Learning** Outcomes | Case | Required Reading and Preparation | **Optional Reading** |
|  | **ORIENTATION**  Oct 10, 2023  (11am-12pm) | * Familiarize participants about course, facilitators and answer and address concerns before course starts * Establishes the course purpose, and expected outcomes * Reviews expectations, important notices and participants roles and responsibilities * Provide information about resources available to support participants | N/A | Review the course outline below.  Hold the dates of COP meetings in your calendar. | N/A |
| 1 | **INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS IN HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES**  (Oct 16-20, 2023)   * Oct 17 2023   11am-12pm   * Oct 19 2023   3:30pm-4:30pm | Define the term ethics and distinguish between different types of ethics (like clinical or research ethics) in healthcare and social servicesDescribe the differences between ethics, law and risk managementConsider the role of ethics in your professional and personal life | Susan Collins RN; Tensions around discharge planning | * Reflect on what kinds of ethical issues you experience in your professional work/practice. * Visit your professional college or association website. Review your own code of ethics and skim the titles of the practice standards. * Consider how these assist you when encountering ethical issues, as well as their limitations. * Reflect on how you would respond to Susan’s situation from perspective of your own profession. | * Duthie, K., Jiwani, B., & Steele, D. (2017). Ethics and the Law. HEC forum : an interdisciplinary journal on hospitals' ethical and legal issues, 29(4), 347–358.   Link: [https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10730-017-9328-1](https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10730-017-9328-1%20) (Open Access)   * Faden, R. R., Kass, N. E., Goodman, S. N., Pronovost, P., Tunis, S., & Beauchamp, T. L. (2013). An ethics framework for a learning health care system: a departure from traditional research ethics and clinical ethics. The Hastings Center report, Spec No, S16–S27. |
| 2 | **STRUCTURES AND RESOURCES SUPPORTING ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING**  (Oct 23-27, 2023**)**   * Oct 24 2023   11am-12pm   * Oct 26 2023   3:30pm-4:30pm | Define an ethics framework and its function  * Think of a difficult ethical issue you have encountered in your practice; identify how an ethics framework could support decision-making * Discuss other structures/resources that support ethical decision-making in an organization * Consider barriers to accessing ethics resources in your organization. | Joseph Hill OT: What do we do for Ms. Lang? | * Find and read the ethics framework/policy your organization uses. * Reflect upon how you identify and address ethical dilemmas in your work. What approach or resources do you use - talk with your team members, connect with your leaders, use framework or do something else? * Reflecting on this case, what resources could you use to address it in your organization? * What approaches might have helped to prevent the ethical conflict in this situation? | * **Recommended:** Trillium Health Partners Idea Framework: <https://trilliumhealthpartners.ca/aboutus/Documents/IDEA-Framework-THP.pdf> * **Optional:** Pavlish, C., Brown-Saltzman, K., Fine, A., & Jakel, P. (2013). Making the call: a proactive ethics framework. HEC Forum 25 (3): 269-283. * **Optional:** Bruun, H., Huniche, L., Stenager, E. et al. Hospital ethics reflection groups: a learning and development resource for clinical practice. BMC Med Ethics 20, 75 (2019).   Link: [https://bmcmedethics.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12910-019-0415-5](https://bmcmedethics.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12910-019-0415-5%20) (Open access) |
| 3 | **ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING AND REFLECTION**  (Oct 30-Nov 3, 2023)   * Oct 31 2023   11am-12pm   * Nov 02 2023   3:30pm-4:30pm | * Identify what an ethical dilemma is * Discuss how ethical decision-making happens in healthcare or social services * Describe what ethical reflection is and how to practice it | Team ICU: Now what? The case of Ms. Lewis | * Complete the free test on moral foundations <https://www.yourpersonality.net/political/griffin1.pl> * Save your results for later. Reflect on your results: How did you decide on answers - did you think carefully about each question or was it more of a gut feeling? Were you surprised or did the results confirm your expectations? * Reflect on the ethical dilemma in the case study? How would you start untangling the issue? * Think of an ethical dilemma you have encountered in your practice/ life related to healthcare. What did you learn from this? How does it influence your practice today? | * Branch Jr, W. T., & George, M. (2017). Reflection-based learning for professional ethical formation. AMA Journal of Ethics, 19(4), 349-356. Link: [https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/reflection-based-learning-professional-ethical-formation/2017-04](https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/reflection-based-learning-professional-ethical-formation/2017-04%20) (Open access) |
| 4 | **VALUES, VIRTUES, PRINCIPLES**  (Nov 6-10, 2023)   * Nov 07 2023   11am-12pm   * Nov 09 2023   3:30pm-4:30pm | * Define values, virtues and principles * Discuss how we use these concepts in ethical decision-making * Reflect on how to address values conflicts constructively. | Precious Mbabazi, mental health practitioner: Cultural difference in mental illness | * What are the key values, virtues and principles that govern your profession and practice? * Reflect on what personal values do you hold dearly. * Reflect on how you approach situations where your personal values are in conflict with the values of: your profession, your colleagues, your organization, the patients/families you care for. | * Duncan, P. (2009). Ethical Thinking: The Four Principles of Health Care Ethics. In *Values, Ethics and Health Care*, 1-168. * Varkey, B. (2021). Principles of clinical ethics and their application to practice. Medical Principles and Practice, 30(1), 17-28. Link: [https://karger.com/mpp/article/30/1/17/204816/Principles-of-Clinical-Ethics-and-Their](https://karger.com/mpp/article/30/1/17/204816/Principles-of-Clinical-Ethics-and-Their%20) (Open access) * Moyo, M., Goodyear-Smith, F. A., Weller, J., Robb, G., & Shulruf, B. (2016). Healthcare practitioners’ personal and professional values. Advances in Health Sciences Education, 21, 257-286. |
| 5 | **CAPACITY**  (Nov 13-17, 2023)   * Nov 14 2023   11am-12pm   * Nov 16 2023   3:30pm-4:30pm | * Define concept of capacity * Describe different types of decisions that require capacity assessment in healthcare * Describe ethical principles behind capacity * Discuss resources to assist determinations of capacity. | Mrs. Z: I Don’t Want Any Tubes | * [Review Health Care Consent Act Part II, section 15-19 (“Capacity”)](https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/96h02" \l "BK19) * What is your professional/clinical role in the assessment of patient capacity? * [Review the Aid to Capacity Evaluation (ACE) tool.](https://jcb.utoronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/ace.pdf) * Consider typical situations in your own practice when a team questions someone's capacity. What steps/resources are appropriate to assess/confirm a patient’s capacity? | * Etchells, E., Sharpe, G., Elliott, C., & Singer, P. A. (1996). Bioethics for clinicians: 3. Capacity. CMAJ: Canadian Medical Association Journal, 155(6), 657. Link: [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1335218/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1335218/%20) (Open access) * Pirotte, B. D., & Benson, S. (2020). Refusal of Care.   Link: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK560886/> (Open access)   * Sterling, A., Abrams, J., Sontag, D., Zuckerman, D., O'Neill, S., Brendel, R., & Giacino, J. (2022). Assessing Decision-Making Capacity in Patients with Acquired Brain Injury: A Toolkit of Ethical Guidelines. Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, 103(3), e11. |
| 6 | **SUBSTITUTE-DECISION MAKING**  (Nov 20-24, 2023)   * Nov 21 2023   11am-12pm   * Nov 23 2023   3:30pm-4:30pm | * Identify the hierarchy of substitute-decision makers for Ontario patients * Reflect on the role of the SDM and the guiding principles of the role * Identify ethical issues that may arise when working with SDMs * Discuss conflict resolution options in these situations, including the role of the Consent and Capacity Board in Ontario | Mr. K: End stage liver disease in the ICU | * [Review Health Care Consent Act Part II Section 20-24 (“Consent on Incapable person’s behalf”)](https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/96h02#BK25) * Identify who would be in the hierarchy of SDMs if you became incapable. * [Read the College of Physician and Surgeons Ontario (CPSO) Decision making for End of Life care Policy](https://www.cpso.on.ca/en/Physicians/Policies-Guidance/Policies/Decision-Making-for-End-of-Life-Care) * What ethical challenges have you encountered re: decision-making of SDMs? * How were these challenges addressed or not addressed? * In your experience, do people understand their role as SDMs? | * Review information on substitute decision making at <https://advancecareplanningontario.ca/substitue-decision-makers> * Review the Consent and Capacity Board Website at <http://www.ccboard.on.ca/scripts/english/index.asp> * Read Health Care Consent Act (HCCA) at <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/96h02> * Read Substitute Decisions Act (SDA) at <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/92s30> |
| 7 | **INFORMED CONSENT**  (Nov 27-Dec 1, 2023)   * Nov 28 2023   11am-12pm   * Nov 30 2023   3:30pm-4:30pm | * Identify the elements of informed consent outlined in the Ontario Health Care Consent Act * Define the principle of respect for autonomy as it relates to informed consent * Discuss the practical and ethical challenges of informed consent process. | TBD | * [Review Health Care Consent Act Part II Section 10-14 (“Consent to treatment”)](https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/96h02#BK13) * Read the consent to treatment policy for your organization. * Identify questions/challenges arising in the practice of informed consent in your context | * Hall, D. E., Prochazka, A. V., & Fink, A. S. (2012). Informed consent for clinical treatment. *Cmaj*, *184*(5), 533-540.   Link: [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3307558/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3307558/%20) (Open access)   * Sullivan, L. S., Adler, M., Arenth, J., Ozark, S., & Vaughan, L. (2021). Shared Decision-Making in Palliative Care: A Maternalistic Approach. *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics*, *11*(2), 211-220. |
| 8 | **PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY**  (Dec 4-8, 2023)   * Dec 05 2023   11am-12pm   * Dec 07 2023   3:30pm-4:30pm | * Define the concepts of privacy and confidentiality * Identify applicable laws and institutional policies * Identify ethical challenges surrounding privacy and confidentiality | TBD | * Read the confidentiality/privacy policy of your organization. * Reflect on the most common challenges to maintaining privacy/confidentiality in your practice. What gets in the way? * Reflect on practices that protect privacy of your patients/clients/residents. * Reflect on times when it is necessary to breach privacy/confidentiality and the ethical justifications for this. | * Lacroix, M., Nycum, G., Godard, B., & Knoppers, B. M. (2008). Should physicians warn patients' relatives of genetic risks?   *CMAJ*, *178*(5), 593-595  Link: [https://www.cmaj.ca/content/178/5/593](https://www.cmaj.ca/content/178/5/593%20) (Open Access)   * Review Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA), 2004, S.O. 2004, c. 3, Sched. A. Part III and IV |
| 9 | **JUSTICE IN HEALTHCARE**  (Dec 11-15, 2023)   * Dec 12 2023   11am-12pm   * Dec 14 2023   3:30pm-4:30pm | * Define the concept of justice as it applies to healthcare * Discuss different approaches to justice in healthcare and socials services sector * Describe the A4R ethical tool based in procedural justice * Identify the intersection of justice and allocation of scarce resources in healthcare * Reflect on the connection between Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and ethics in your organization. | TBD | * Review your organizational reports/statements on EDI. * Review your college and statements about EDI. Reflect on the different kinds of resource allocation decisions your team/organization makes. * Talk to a few managers/directors in your organization about how resource allocation (budget) decisions are made. What is the process? What are the principles guiding the process? What are the challenges in this process? | * Daniels, N. (2001). Justice, health, and healthcare. American Journal of Bioethics, 1(2), 2-16. * Gibson, J. L., Martin, D. K., & Singer, P. A. (2004). Setting priorities in health care organizations: criteria, processes, and parameters of success. BMC Health Services Research, 4(1), 1-8.   Link: [https://bmchealthservres.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6963-4-25](https://bmchealthservres.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6963-4-25%20) (Open Access)   * Heidinger, B. A., Downar, A., Frolic, A., Downar, J., & Isenberg, S. R. (2023). Physician and administrator experience of preparing to implement Ontario’s intensive care unit Triage Emergency Standard of Care during the COVID-19 pandemic: a qualitative study. *Canadian Medical Association Open Access Journal*, *11*(5), E838-E846   Link: [https://www.cmajopen.ca/content/11/5/E838](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/www.cmajopen.ca/content/11/5/E838__;!!JB7FzA!KBGhBTxwqCSFXf6nljpHC7zRFMSoMMBOYUJdJIouabnLtKQxjoEPRVWqj89HWWgBK1lHAYVd9jX-ZG-XPK_cczgG$) (Open access)   * Bean, S., & Kelecevic, J. (2022). How Clinical Ethics Consultants Navigate Complex Acute Care Discharge Cases in Ontario. In *Thorny Issues in Clinical Ethics Consultation: North American and European Perspectives* (pp. 117-124). Cham: Springer International Publishing. |
| 10 | **SUMMARY – ETHICS CASE ANALYSIS**  (Dec 18-21, 2023)   * Dec 19 2023   11am-12pm   * Dec 21 2023   3:30pm-4:30pm | * Review the core concepts learned over this course * Identify which concepts are relevant to the case you will write up * Use an ethics framework and decision-making tool to work through the case for your culminating assignment (Due January 15, 2024) | N/A | * Reflect on any questions that remain from this course * Identify a case that you would like to use for your culminating assignment * Review your organization’s ethics framework and consider how you will use this to support your case analysis | N/A |

**Additional Readings**

1. Beauchamp, T. L., & Childress, J. F. (2001). Principles of biomedical ethics. Oxford University Press, USA.
2. Weston, A. (2023). A 21st Century Ethical Toolbox. New York: Oxford University Press
3. Wasson, K., & Kuczewski, M. (Eds.). (2022). *Thorny Issues in Clinical Ethics Consultation: North American and European Perspectives* (Vol. 143). Springer Nature.