



Clinical Ethics Screening Tool

This screen is intended to help you focus on issues that allow you to identify a case or situation appropriate to refer for an ethics consultation. This screen does not cover every issue and matter that could lead to an ethics consult but it would prompt most matters for a consultation.

Values

Is there a plan or activity that clashes with something I hold as important?

- My personal values
- My professional ethics, professional values, or Code of Conduct and Professional Practice
- Our Organizational Values

Decisions

Is there a clash, confusion, dispute or ambivalence about the decision making?

- Who should make the decision
- Competence
- Substitute decision-maker
- Best interest of patient / resident / client
- Information exchange
- Current wishes
- Advance Health Care Directive

Care Plan

Is there confusion or dispute over the plan of care?

- Goal is unclear (Why are we doing this?)
- Status has changed and goal has not been appropriately revised
- Interventions seem futile
- Disproportion of risk and pain over benefit

Other

- Gut feeling (Something doesn't feel right about this!)
- Confidentiality
- Consensus among team and/or others that an open discussion is needed in this case
- Patient / resident / family member questions the ethics of care or options.

For further information, please contact:

Patient Safety/Quality Department

Labrador-Grenfell Health

P.O. Box 7000, Station C, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL, A0P 1C0

Phone 709-896-3103, Fax 709-896-4032