

Barnes Jewish Hospital

Ethics Committee

Medical Ethics Practicum – Program Description

Goals and Objectives

Goals

- Provide a meaningful experience for the health care professional regarding medical ethics issues and patient care
- Support the Ethics Committee consultation team with fresh insights and personal expertise

Objectives

- Involve the health care professional on the inpatient case consultation team, working with experienced team members on immediate medical ethical issues
- Become familiar with the policy review process
- Provide a venue for interactions with Ethics Committee administrative bodies
- Include scholarly study/activities on medical ethics issues
- Provide opportunities for advanced ethics activities, including research, QR/CQI and conference participation

**BJH Ethics Committee
Medical Ethics Practicum**

Description of Rotation

The BJH Ethics Practicum is designed for motivated, self-starting professionals who are able to work well both independently and with other people. Participants should have a minimum of one year full-time or part-time employment in good standing, and will need documentation of HIPAA certification as well as Supervisor approval. An interested applicant will need to submit a letter of interest along with a curriculum vitae or résumé.

The rotation is based on benchmarks, not a set period of time, but should not exceed 6 months unless an extension is approved by the Program Director.

We will educate multiple professionals concurrently. The expected personal commitment will be 5-6 hours per month plus reading/studying, averaging 6-8 hours/month (includes consultation time). Schedule flexibility will be necessary in order to participate in and contribute to case consultations.

This program is limited to and free to BJC and Washington University employees and is not a paid practicum.

All documents, publications and other intellectual property related to this activity are and will be under the sole ownership of Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

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Expectations

Professionals need to attend and participate in a minimum of four education sessions (at least one didactic program and one Journal Club).

Before involvement with inpatient consultations, participants must attend one didactic program and two course modules on effective consultation principles. Supervision will be provided by the Ethics consult leads and reported to the Program Director.

Benchmarks:

- Participate in each area/discipline (policy review, education, case consultation)
- Minimum participation with 4 consultations (needed to ensure adequate diversity). One supervised virtual/video consultation may count towards this total
- Attend two different Committee or subcommittee meetings
- Provide input on the ethical analysis of a clinical situation or institutional policy
- Scholarly project– topic/design subject to Practicum Director approval within six weeks of starting the Practicum.
- Attend/participate in one educational event
- Become familiar with the policy review process
- Read the text: Jonsen AR, Siegler M, Winslade WJ. Clinical Ethics: A Practical Approach to Ethical Decisions in Clinical Medicine
- Complete a final evaluation/feedback assessment

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Evaluation Process

Criteria

Validate each of the required elements and benchmarks of the rotation

Bi-monthly performance reviews by the Program Director with supervisor reports

Final score with Pass/ Incomplete

Advanced opportunities

Work on QR/CQI activities – examples:

Peer review of ethics consultations

Critical Care/Anesthesia initiatives:

Guidelines for ventilator allocation in the event of a
Pandemic (Dr. Lawrence)

Consider developing a clearinghouse for safety/quality issues
on the Quality Initiatives website

Assist in development of online ethics education modules

Compile a history of “Tough cases”

Develop or participate in current research projects

Present in conferences

Text/literature resources:

Jonsen AR, Siegler M, Winslade WJ. Clinical Ethics: A Practical Approach to Ethical Decisions in Clinical Medicine

Lo B. Resolving Ethical Dilemmas: A Guide for Clinicians

AMA Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs. Code of Medical Ethics. Current Opinions with Annotations.