

Identifying and decision making regarding ethical dilemmas and problems

<i>Criteria from the Leadership Standard</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) An ethics framework to support ethical practice is developed or adopted, and implemented with input from clients and families. 2) The ethics framework defines processes for managing ethics issues, dilemmas, and concerns. 3) Accountability for the ethics framework and the processes to address ethics issues is assigned and monitored. 4) Support is provided to build the capacity of the governing body, leaders, and teams to use the ethics framework. 5) The ethics framework includes a process for reviewing the ethical implications of any research activity that the organization leads or participates in.

WHAT IS IT, AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- Principle Based Care and Decision-Making includes “identifying and decision making regarding ethical dilemmas and problems”.
- It is important that organizations develop and adopt an ethics framework to support ethical practice; ensure the framework defines processes and tools for managing ethics issues, dilemmas and concerns; and build capacity to use the ethics framework.

WHAT DO WE DO AT UNITY HEALTH?

- Our principle-based ethical decision making framework (GREAT) is a framework for making GREAT decisions for clinical and organizational issues, in line with Unity Health Toronto’s mission and values.
- If you are facing a difficult ethical decision and are unsure of the best course of action, there are worksheets available, as well as an organizational decision-making tool, physicians, learners, staff, or patients can also request an ethics consult for additional support. Ethics can be reached 24/7 by calling locating or directly at 416-864-5070 pager ID: 4211.

RESOURCES

√ UNITY HEALTH:

Frameworks and Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GREAT Ethics Framework • GREAT Ethical Decision-Making Tool • GREAT Organizational Decision-Making Tool • GREAT Quick Reference Badge Card • CHAC Health Ethics Guide
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QUESTIONS YOU MAY BE ASKED BY A SURVEYOR


- *Is there a formal process to identify and address ethics issues? What does it include?*
- *How would team members confidentially report suspected or potential breaches of the ethics framework?*
- *What kinds of training, forums, guidelines and tools are available to team members?*
- *How was the ethics strategy developed? Did the process include patients and families?*

Appendix A: GREAT Quick Reference Badge Card

GREAT

A principle-based framework
for ethical decision-making

Gather	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get background information• Identify initial judgments
Refine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distill judgments• Name the options
Evaluate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess the options• Reflect on organizational values
Act with Transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Articulate the choice• Reflect and learn

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