

ETHICS WORK-UP

Created by Center faculty as a tool to guide the responsible management of ethical challenges in clinical care

1 FACT-FINDING

Identify relevant facts of the case and any additional information you want to know.

2 IDENTIFY ALTERNATIVES

Identify the available alternative courses of action.

3 ASSESS EACH ALTERNATIVE

From the perspective of the relevant ethical appeals:

- Established legal, ethical, and professional standards
- Consequences
- Rights
- Virtues
- Other ethical considerations (justice, special obligations in the professional role, legitimate self-interests and personal commitments, general moral constraints)

4 DEVELOP A PLAN & AN ARGUMENT

For one of the alternative courses of action:

- State clear reasons based on assessment of the appeals for assigning priority to one course of action rather than another.
- State a clear critique of these reasons and respond to the critique.
- Provide a detailed management plan for implementing the course of action that you chose that includes several steps and back-up plans.

5 IDENTIFY PREVENTION STEPS

Identify steps that might have been taken to prevent the ethical challenge(s) that arose in this case.