

# Ethics Consultation Services

Am I making the right decision?

Is this ethical?

Where can I turn for help?

As patients, families, or staff members you are faced with making difficult decisions everyday, but here at The Ottawa Hospital you don't have to do it alone. We have tools and resources to help you through the ethics consultation service



The Ottawa Hospital has partnered with the Champlain Centre for Health Care Ethics (CCHCE) to provide all patients, families, and staff with comprehensive ethics consultation services.

## What is an Ethics Consultation?

An ethics consultation provides patients, family, and staff with the opportunity to discuss their issues with an Ethicist. During a consultation, an Ethicist will **help you breakdown and identify the issues you are facing and develop recommendations** using an appropriate ethics framework.

## When should I ask for an Ethics Consult?

There is **never a wrong reason** to seek a consultation. Some common consultation themes include concerns regarding consent & capacity, the roles & responsibilities of a substitute decision maker, and end of life care.

## Is the outcome of an Ethics Consult binding or final?

The purpose of an ethics consult is to collaboratively find potential solutions to difficult situations. While an ethics consultation may lead to suggestions on how to deal with your ethical issues, the **final decision always remains in the hands of the patient, family, or health care professionals involved.**

## Who can request an Ethics Consult?

Anyone. Ethics consults are a free and confidential resource accessible to all patients, families, and staff.

Ethics services can be requested  
via email at: [ethics@toh.ca](mailto:ethics@toh.ca)  
or by phone at: 613-722-7000  
and asking to speak with an ethicist