



THE Heart OF
Care, Patients & Families

Additional Information

Ethics consultations are confidential unless there is any threat of harm or abuse to self or others.

Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital supports you in making good ethical decisions. For more information contact the Ethics Committee or the Privacy Officer by phone 613-283-2330 ext. 1140 or by email at privacyofficer@psfdh.on.ca



www.psfhdh.on.ca

An Ethics Consultation
is confidential service.



With thanks to Haliburton Highlands Health Services as some content of this brochure was kindly shared.



Perth and
Smiths Falls
District Hospital

Ethics Consultation Service



What is an Ethics Consultation?

- ▶ Ethics involves making recommendations where best answer is hard to find, or where people have serious differences of opinion about what is right and wrong.
- ▶ A consultation is a meeting with a multidisciplinary committee to assist with providing the best recommendation possible.
- ▶ The Ethics Committee can assist patients, families, staff, physicians and volunteers to work through difficult decisions by providing feedback or information.
- ▶ An ethics consultation does not take away the patient's or their substitute decision maker's right to make choices and decisions about care.



Who Can Request an Ethics Consultation?

- ✓ Patients
- ✓ Patients' family/ friends
- ✓ Staff members
- ✓ Physicians
- ✓ Volunteers



Who may attend an Ethics Consultation?

- ✓ Patient
- ✓ Substitute decision maker
- ✓ Family
- ✓ Physicians
- ✓ Nurses
- ✓ Allied Health Professionals
- ✓ Administration
- ✓ Clergy
- ✓ Educators
- ✓ Community professionals

When should an Ethics Consultation be Considered?

When a patient, family, volunteer, physician or staff member needs assistance to consider all of the issues involved in making a decision.



What will happen at the Ethics Consultation?

The Team Will:

- ▶ Meet and review the situation and identify the issues/concerns
- ▶ Gather, review and share information
- ▶ Discuss options, alternatives and choices
- ▶ Answer questions and share concerns
- ▶ Provide guidance and/or recommendations