

Contact Us

Patients and families may call the Ethics Service directly, or they may also ask their healthcare team to contact the Clinical Ethicists on their behalf. Confidential discussions are available to you.

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Ethics Service 604 875 3182



What is the right thing to do?



Ethics Service

**BC WOMEN'S
HOSPITAL+
HEALTH CENTRE**



An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

What we do

If you are struggling to make choices about your own care, or that of someone you love, a confidential ethics consultation can help.

How can I be sure my wishes about my healthcare will be respected?

I have been told there are problems with my pregnancy, how do I choose what to do?

I don't know if I agree with the doctors about what is best.

Can you ever force someone to take certain medications or agree to a treatment?

I am a 17 year old girl; will what I tell the doctor be kept private?

Ethics Service



We provide a confidential support and consultation service to patients and families who face complex, difficult ethical decisions

What do you mean by difficult ethical decisions?

Some examples include:

- ◆ Uncertainty or confusion about what treatment option is best for you / your child.
- ◆ Question about a person's role in making healthcare decisions for themselves.
- ◆ Concerns about continuing, stopping or refusing treatment.
- ◆ Issues regarding patient rights.
- ◆ Different opinions among or between family members and/or healthcare providers about treatment goals or the plan of care.
- ◆ End of life decision making.

How Can a Clinical Ethicist Help?

We meet with you to identify and help resolve difficult issues.

- ◆ If there are different views about a plan of care, we will listen and provide an opportunity for a discussion that is safe, respectful and fair.
- ◆ We can help you to think through which values are most important to you to help you make decisions that best reflect these values.
- ◆ We do not make decisions for you or tell you what to do. Instead, our goal is to help patients and families in working through the decision making process to reach a decision that is right for you and your loved ones.

