

Requesting an Ethics Consultation

To request a consultation with the Ethics Committee, please speak to a member of our team and we will connect you.

The members of the committee will then be contacted for a consultation. There is no charge for this service and the discussion is confidential.

After the committee has had the opportunity to meet and review the case, a summary of the meeting is sent to the person who requested the consultation and a copy is also kept in the records of the Ethics Committee.

Contact information:

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HELP WITH
DIFFICULT
HEALTH CARE
DECISIONS

Ethics Consultation Service



Haldimand War Memorial Hospital
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**Embracing the health and hearts
of the community**



When a loved one is seriously ill, family members sometimes need to make difficult decisions about their care. We're here to help.

The Ethics Committee of Haldimand War Memorial Hospital and Edgewater Gardens is available to help patients and residents, family members and health care professionals discuss difficult choices and decisions about a patient or resident's care.

The Ethics Committee does not make decisions, but offers advice and help in determining the best course of action.

Anyone directly involved in the person's care can request a consultation with the committee. This includes patients and residents, family members and health care professionals.

Examples of When a Consultation May Help:

- When there is uncertainty about who should make decisions or how those decisions should be made for patients and residents who are not able to speak for themselves.
- When there is a disagreement among patients, families or caregivers about treatment.
- When there is a conflict between values and religious beliefs, and the treatment recommended by the health care team.
- When there are questions or a disagreement about whether starting, continuing and ending treatment is the right thing to do, such as with feeding tubes or ventilators, or with life support.
- Whether a terminally ill patient or resident should be allowed to go home, and the impact to the person's health and well-being.

Goals of the Ethics Consultation Service:

- To promote the rights of patients and residents.
- To promote shared decision making between patients and residents, and their families and caregivers.
- To promote fair policies and procedures that maximize the likelihood of achieving the best possible care and outcomes for patients and residents.
- To provide education to our employees about ethical considerations in providing patient and resident care.

Members of the HWMH and Edgewater Ethics Committee:

- The chair of the Board of Directors
- One or more members of the Board of Directors
- The President and CEO
- Two nurse leaders, representing the hospital and Edgewater Gardens
- A member of the Volunteer Association
- A community member
- A chaplain or representative of the clergy
- A physician
- The Chief Privacy Officer

