

# Ethics Consult Services



**School of Medicine**  
**University of Missouri Health System**



**Center for Health Ethics**  
University of Missouri  
School of Medicine

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<http://ethics.missouri.edu/>

## Ethics Consultants

The University of Missouri Ethics Consult Services is staffed by health care personnel with specific training in the area of Ethics.

David A. Fleming, MD, MA, FACP

Lea C. Brandt, OTD, MA, OTR/L

Arthur Rawlings, MD, MDiv.

Shawna Strickland, PhD, RRT-NPS

Don Reynolds, JD.

These individuals are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to provide consultations to patients, their families, surrogates or health care providers who need assistance when making difficult health related decisions. This service is volunteer. There is no charge for this consultation.

After 5pm, during the weekends or Holidays, please ask your doctor, nurse, social worker or chaplain to contact the Center for Health Ethics at 573.882.2738 or the Hospital switchboard at 573.882.4141 and ask for the Ethics Consultant on call to be paged.

## When to call for an Ethics Consult Service

Dilemmas and conflict may arise when a patient, family member, health care professional or the hospital has different ideas about values, responsibilities and loyalties.

Also, when questions such as, "What is the right thing to do?" come into the decision making process this is when you can call for an Ethics Consult Service to assist you.

### *The Consultation Process*

Following a request for consultation, a representative of the Ethics Consult Service will speak with the individual requesting assistance. If further discussion is needed, a meeting will be scheduled to include the patient and/or their family or representative, the health care providers involved in the case and other members of the health care team.

During this private meeting open and honest discussion will be encouraged about the clinical circumstances and the ethical concerns, and an attempt will be made to resolve the conflict. The Ethics Consultant assists by facilitating the discussion, helping to outline the ethical issues, and may offer suggestions as to what actions may be reasonable.

The final decisions are to be made by the patient and his/her representative in conjunction with the patient's physician and other members of the health care team.