

# Ethics Patient Care Conference

Patient Identification: \_\_\_\_\_



## Prepare Space



- ✓ Include items that provide a comfortable and private setting
- ✓ Arrange seating with family dynamics and safety in mind



## Welcome

- Introduce self (facilitator)
- Explain purpose of meeting
- Set time limit 
- Introduce conference participants 
- Explain that notes will be taken

-  Optimal time limit = 45 minutes
-  Introduce caregivers' roles and knowledge of patient
-  Invite family to state name and relationship to patient
-  Identify decision-maker

Names of Participants

--



## Share Data

- Invite guests to share perspectives 
  1. patient/surrogate
  2. family
- Invite physician to share medical data
- Invite other caregivers to share perspectives
- Ask surrogate and family to repeat what they heard
- Summarize key points discussed 



Actively listen – no interruptions



Helpful phrases to gather data:

“Tell me about (the patient....)”

“What do you understand about the patient’s condition?”

“What do you think the patient would want?”



Repeat viewpoints of participants to validate their contribution

Notes



## Develop Care Plan

- State intention of building consensus
- Identify the key ethics issue(s) involved 

Notes

- Address disputes 

Notes



Refer to Ready Reference Grid,  
if needed



Ask each stakeholder if they  
agree on the issue(s) identified



Helpful phrases to address disputes:

“I’m confused. Please help me understand how that impacts the decision at-hand.”

“Thank you \_\_\_\_\_. In order to make the best decision, we need to hear everyone’s thoughts.”

“We have the necessary information to make a decision now, so let’s move on to that.”



Reframe argumentative statements and drop offensive language



Allow room for silence



Keep the conversation oriented toward goals of care and patient preferences



Outline next 4 steps of the care plan



1.

2.

3.

4.

Determine need for follow-up meeting

Who:

When:

Where:



Indicate who follows up with each step of the care plan



## Close and Debrief

- Conduct survey questions 1-3 
- Thank all for participating 
- Distribute business cards
- Invite caregivers to stay and debrief
- Conduct survey questions 4 and 5 



Ask family if they would like to pray and refer to reflections provided in toolkit, if needed

### FAMILY AND/OR PATIENT

1. Do you feel like this process helped you to voice your concerns and provide answers to your questions?    **Y**        **N**
2. Did the information discussed during this conference help you arrive at a decision regarding your (or the patient's) care?    **Y**        **N**
3. Do you feel like this process helped clarify what the next steps are in your (or the patient's) plan of care?    **Y**        **N**

### CARE TEAM

4. On a scale of 1-10 (1 = not clear, 10 = very clear) please indicate the level of clarity you had about the next steps in your patient's care plan:

prior to the ethics conference \_\_\_\_\_

following the ethics conference process \_\_\_\_\_

### PHYSICIAN(S)

5. Did the ethics care conference leader provide you with ethics expertise that assisted you in the care of your patient?

Strongly Disagree

Disagree

Undecided

Agree

Strongly Agree