



The *EthicsLab Essentials* provides a core curriculum designed to enrich ethics committee members through a podcast and website format. A podcast format was chosen due to its easy accessibility and learning schedule flexibility for the listener.

**Episode: Thinking Differently: Building Blocks for a Quality Ethics Program.**

**Description:**

Are there better ways to build and support a culture of clinical ethics in healthcare? What might that look like? What has worked and how could the ideas and tools offered be implemented? In the late 1990's the idea was proposed, why not marry the work being done in health care ethics with quality improvement methodology. Would this type of "Thinking Differently" help us get traction and improve the systems and initiatives that clinical ethics tries to accomplish? These are some of the questions and issues that our guests will wrestle with as well as offering concrete examples and even practical solutions being tested today.

**Process:**

Have your ethics team members listen to this podcast prior to your regular ethics committee meeting. Then, at your meeting facilitate a discussion and application of the episode around the following questions.

**Facilitation Questions:**

1. How does your ethics committee currently look "upstream"? How do you apply systemic thinking to addressing the patterns ethics dilemmas your ethics team is faced with?
2. What recent gap analysis has your ethics team done regarding your quality or effectiveness? Do you gather any data to improve your work?
3. From the advice offered in this episode, how might your ethics committee start to use systemic thinking to improve your work regarding education, consultation, or policy?