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# Ethics in Ascension: The Proactive Ethics Integration Model

REFLECTIVE. PROACTIVE. INTEGRATIVE.

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# Proactive Ethics Integration: The Ascension Model

Old  
Paradigm

**All ethics consults are alike**

- Any question perceived to have an ethical dimension
- No clear definition/criteria

New  
Paradigm

**Not all Ethics consults are alike**

- General Advisement
- Patient-Specific Care Consultation
- Retrospective Case Analysis

Old  
Paradigm

**Deployment Model**

- Call in the expert
- Often times the issue isn't even really an ethical issue
- Time-consuming

New  
Paradigm

**•Embedded Model**

- Right time, right place, right way (as close as possible to the person being served)

Old  
Paradigm

**Increased Capacity:  
More FTEs**

New  
Paradigm

**Increased Capacity:**

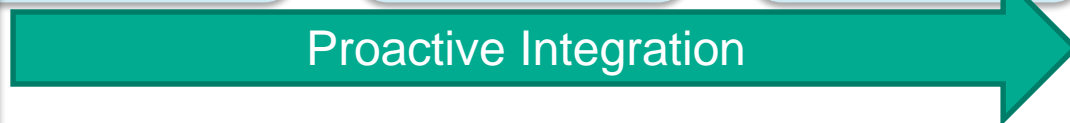
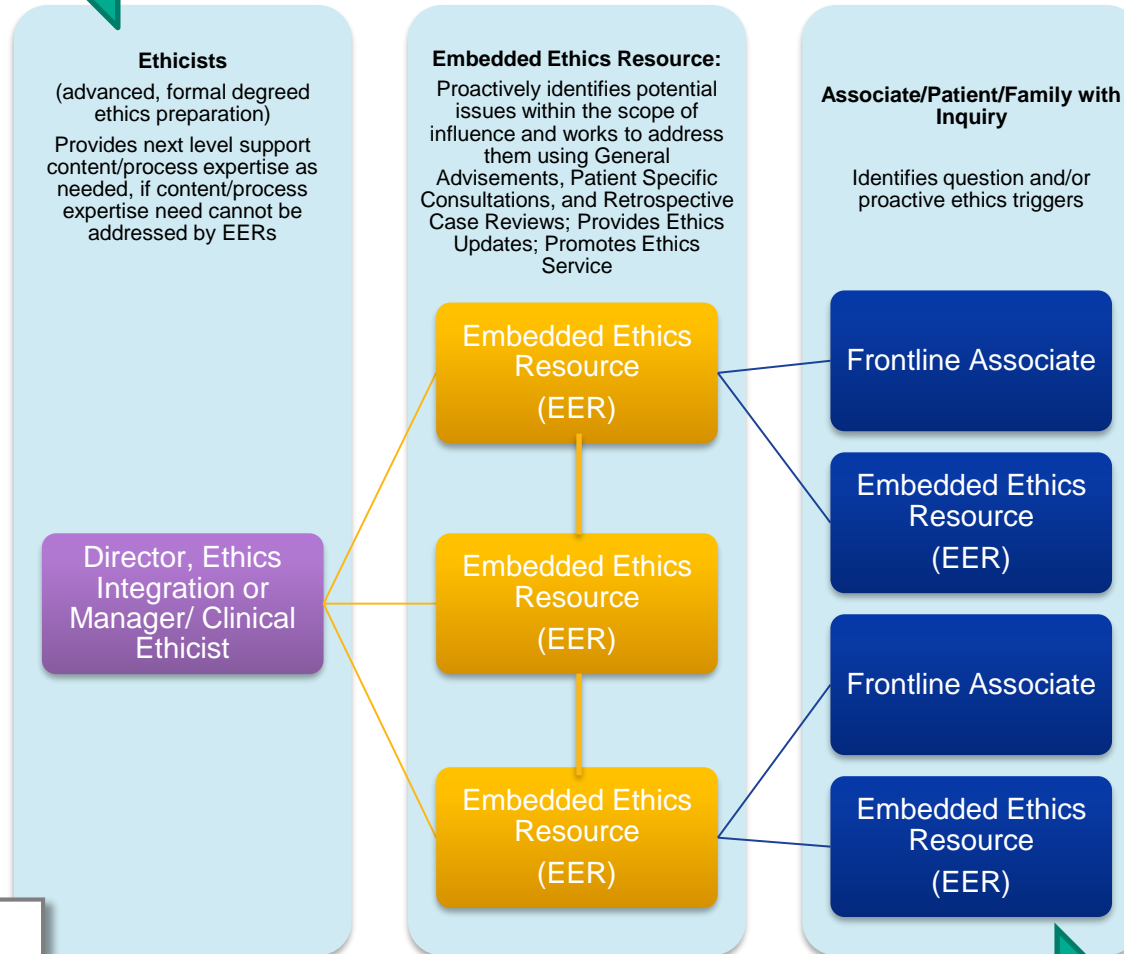
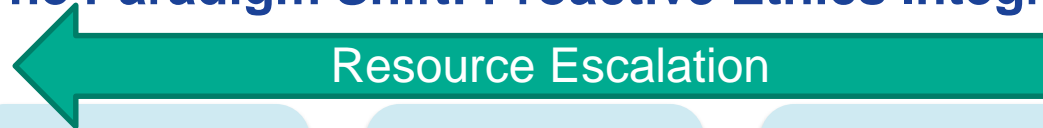
- Targeted education/training the right staff



## Ethics: a High Reliability Endeavor

- First, do no harm!
  - Physical/clinical
  - Social/relational
  - Emotional
  - Spiritual
- What Causes Harm?
  - Systems and Process Failures
  - Maybe, at worst, inattentiveness
  - But not usually ill will
- Proactive Ethics Integration
  - Systematic implementation of normalized processes and standardized resources
  - Avoid, reduce and/or eliminate relational, emotional, spiritual, and sometimes even physical harm

# The Paradigm Shift: Proactive Ethics Integration



**(Current) Expert Model:**  
reactive responsibility of one or two individuals deployed as requested

**(Emerging) Centers Model:**  
proactive responsibility of the institution to embed at the point of service