



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: HIV Disclosure: New Ethical Approaches**

#### **Description:**

New research findings regarding HIV status will impact how we understand and practice disclosure of HIV status of patients... specifically whether or not to disclose a sick patients' HIV serostatus to their family or partner. The new research demonstrates that when an HIV-positive person sticks to their treatment, their HIV is undetectable and untransmittable (U=U). Our three guests are working together on bioethical projects to spread the awareness of U=U.

#### **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. What stigmas remain regarding a patient's HIV status?
2. How does the "U=U" medical update change the way clinicians have previously engaged with HIV disclosure?
3. How might our ethics committee help clinicians encountering disclosure dilemmas regarding a patient's HIV status?
4. What are legitimate reasons for disclosing a patient's HIV status? What reasons might no longer be legitimate in light of U=U?
5. What education strategy could our ethics committee provide to clinicians to assist in disclosure dilemmas regarding HIV status?