

**Rotation:
Ethics Curriculum in Internal Medicine
Integrative Discipline (no defined rotation)**

Goals:

1. Demonstrate the requisite knowledge base, skills, and attitudes to address ethical-legal problems in clinical practice.
2. Prepare resident physicians to correctly answer board examination questions on ethical-legal problems in clinical practice.

Objectives:

By the end of the Ethics Curriculum in Internal Medicine, PGY-1 residents are expected to expand and cultivate skills and knowledge learned during previous training and to achieve the following objectives based on the six general competencies. The resident should exhibit an increasing level of responsibility and independency as he or she progresses throughout the year.

Competency	Required Skill(s)	Teaching Method(s)	Formative Evaluation Method(s)	Frequency of Evaluation
Patient Care	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	Describe how, when, and why to obtain informed consent to treatment	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Demonstrate how to proceed when a patient refuses treatment	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Demonstrate how to assess a patient's decision-making capacity	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Describe how decisions should be made and surrogates selected for patients who lack decision-making capacity	Ethics, law and medicine	In-Service Exam	

	with or without appropriate surrogates.	subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds		
	Demonstrate how to care for patients who have a poor prognosis or who are terminally ill including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> withholding or withdrawing life-prolonging treatment, including nutrition and hydration preparing and using advance directives writing DNR orders responding to requests to assist in hastening death 	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Demonstrate how and why to identify and respond to situations in which breaching confidentiality may be appropriate or requested	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Explain how to deal with conflicts among the interests of individual patients, other patients, and managed care restrictions	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Explain how to handle conflicts between interests of physicians and the interests of patients in managed care plans	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Describe how to implement the principle of truth-telling in situations involving disclosure of "bad news," medical errors, etc	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report	In-Service Exam	

		Grand Rounds		
	Demonstrate how to handle situations in which scarce resources must be rationed among patients	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Relate how to respond to situations in which physicians may be incompetent, impaired, or unethical	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
Medical Knowledge	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
Practice Based Learning and Improvement	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
Interpersonal and Communication Skills	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
Professionalism	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
Systems-Based Practice	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			

By the end of the Ethics Curriculum in Internal Medicine, PGY-2 residents are expected to expand and cultivate skills and knowledge learned during previous training and to achieve the following objectives based on the six general competencies. The resident should exhibit an increasing level of responsibility and independency as he or she progresses throughout the year.

Competency	Required Skill(s)	Teaching Method(s)	Formative Evaluation Method(s)	Frequency of Evaluation
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Patient Care	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	Describe how, when, and why to obtain informed consent to treatment	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Demonstrate how to proceed when a patient refuses treatment	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Demonstrate how to assess a patient's decision-making capacity	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Describe how decisions should be made and surrogates selected for patients who lack decision-making capacity with or without appropriate surrogates.	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Demonstrate how to care for patients who have a poor prognosis or who are terminally ill including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> withholding or withdrawing life-prolonging treatment, including nutrition and hydration preparing and using advance directives writing DNR orders responding to requests to assist in hastening death 	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Demonstrate how and why to identify and respond to situations in which breaching confidentiality may be appropriate or requested	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty	In-Service Exam	

		conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds		
	Explain how to deal with conflicts among the interests of individual patients, other patients, and managed care restrictions	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Explain how to handle conflicts between interests of physicians and the interests of patients in managed care plans	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Describe how to implement the principle of truth-telling in situations involving disclosure of "bad news," medical errors, etc	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Demonstrate how to handle situations in which scarce resources must be rationed among patients	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Relate how to respond to situations in which physicians may be incompetent, impaired, or unethical	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report	In-Service Exam	

		Grand Rounds		
Medical Knowledge	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
Practice Based Learning and Improvement	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
Interpersonal and Communication Skills	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
Professionalism	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
Systems-Based Practice	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			

By the end of the Ethics Curriculum in Internal Medicine, PGY-3 residents are expected to expand and cultivate skills and knowledge learned during previous training and to achieve the following objectives based on the six general competencies. The resident should exhibit an increasing level of responsibility and independency as he or she progresses throughout the year.

Competency	Required Skill(s)	Teaching Method(s)	Formative Evaluation Method(s)	Frequency of Evaluation
Patient Care	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	Describe how, when, and why to obtain informed consent to treatment	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	
	Demonstrate how to proceed when a patient refuses treatment	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences Morning Report Grand Rounds	In-Service Exam	

	<p>Demonstrate how to assess a patient's decision-making capacity</p>	<p>Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences</p> <p>Morning Report</p> <p>Grand Rounds</p>	<p>In-Service Exam</p>	
	<p>Describe how decisions should be made and surrogates selected for patients who lack decision-making capacity with or without appropriate surrogates.</p>	<p>Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences</p> <p>Morning Report</p> <p>Grand Rounds</p>	<p>In-Service Exam</p>	
	<p>Demonstrate how to care for patients who have a poor prognosis or who are terminally ill including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • withholding or withdrawing life-prolonging treatment, including nutrition and hydration • preparing and using advance directives • writing DNR orders • responding to requests to assist in hastening death 	<p>Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences</p> <p>Morning Report</p> <p>Grand Rounds</p>	<p>In-Service Exam</p>	
	<p>Demonstrate how and why to identify and respond to situations in which breaching confidentiality may be appropriate or requested</p>	<p>Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences</p> <p>Morning Report</p> <p>Grand Rounds</p>	<p>In-Service Exam</p>	
	<p>Explain how to deal with conflicts among the interests of individual patients, other patients, and managed care restrictions</p>	<p>Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences</p> <p>Morning Report</p> <p>Grand Rounds</p>	<p>In-Service Exam</p>	
	<p>Explain how to handle conflicts between interests of physicians and the interests of patients in managed care plans</p>	<p>Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences</p>	<p>In-Service Exam</p>	

		Morning Report		
		Grand Rounds		
	Describe how to implement the principle of truth-telling in situations involving disclosure of "bad news," medical errors, etc	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences	In-Service Exam	
		Morning Report		
		Grand Rounds		
	Demonstrate how to handle situations in which scarce resources must be rationed among patients	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences	In-Service Exam	
		Morning Report		
		Grand Rounds		
	Relate how to respond to situations in which physicians may be incompetent, impaired, or unethical	Ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences	In-Service Exam	
		Morning Report		
		Grand Rounds		
Medical Knowledge	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
Practice Based Learning and Improvement	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
Interpersonal and Communication Skills	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			

Professionalism	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			
Systems-Based Practice	SPECIALTY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES			
	See General Internal Medicine Objectives for a comprehensive list.			

Learning Venues:

There will be six ethics, law and medicine subspecialty conferences yearly dealing with all the topics listed above. In addition there will be a monthly morning report ethics case to demonstrate ethical analysis of a recent patient-based situation. Ethics grand rounds will occur yearly. At each hospital there is also an ethics consultation service, and residents are strongly urged to use this resource for difficult patient questions.

Competency Evaluation:

The in-service examination has several questions related to ethics, and housestaff are expected to score above the national mean on these questions.

Outcomes Assessment:

The annual program assessment by residents will have one to two questions directed at the ethics curriculum. The ethics faculty will be included as part of the internal medicine faculty in the annual resident program assessment evaluation instrument to provide feedback on instructional skills.