



CLINICAL ETHICS CONSULTATIVE SERVICE

The Power of “We”

Our membership in CharterCARE Health Partners allows us to offer access to an impressive list of affiliate services, including:

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Adult & geriatric psychiatry
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Support groups

**Roger
Williams**
MEDICAL
CENTER

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An affiliate of CharterCARE Health Partners



A MAJOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH AFFILIATE OF THE
BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Helping You Make Ethical Decisions



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What is the Clinical Ethics Advisory Committee?

The Roger Williams Medical Center Board of Trustees and President have appointed the RWMC Clinical Ethics Advisory Committee to function in a consultative and advisory role whenever an ethical dilemma concerning patient care arises.

The Purpose of the Roger Williams Medical Center Clinical Ethics Advisory Committee

In today's advanced health care environment, patients, families and health care providers face more decisions than ever before. These decisions can be difficult. In response to these needs RWMC provides a multidisciplinary panel with the expertise to help you through this process.

The Service includes:

- An ethicist
- Physicians
- Nurses
- Chaplains
- Social Workers
- Community Representatives

Why consult the Committee?

We can help:

- Facilitate communication
- Clarify choices
- Improve understanding of treatment options

Who May Request a Consultation?

A request for a consult by the Clinical Ethics Advisory Committee may be made by patients, patient's families, authorized representatives of the patient, physicians or hospital employees. There is no charge for this service.



How to Request a Consultation?

A consult can be made at the unit desk by telling the secretary your concerns. The secretary will inform the committee members on call immediately by phone. You may also ask your doctor, nurse or any member of the health care team about an ethics issue and with your permission they will make the request for you.

Why You May Want an Ethics Consult?

The committee can help with difficult choices or when you feel you are in a disagreement with the care being offered.

Examples of these choices are:

- Use of a feeding or breathing tube
- Use of CPR
- Discontinuing treatment
- Questions about who should be making health care decisions