Bioethics Grand Rounds

Co-sponsored by the Department of Bioethics & Humanities and the Ethics Advisory Committee at the University of Washington Medical Center

The Capacity Conundrum: When Should We Compel Life-Sustaining Treatments Over the Objection of Incompetent Patients?

Panel Discussion featuring the Ethics Advisory Committee

Monday, October 21, 2013
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Health Sciences Building, D-209
Reception to follow

Come and join an interactive session with UWMC Ethics Committee members. We will discuss a difficult case involving a patient who lacks decisional capacity and is refusing life-sustaining treatment. How do we simultaneously respect and protect decisionally compromised patients? When is it OK for us to permit them to refuse life-sustaining treatments? Members of the ethics committee will discuss the case and provide an ethical analysis. The session will provide a greater understanding of the role of the ethics consultation service. The interactive panel discussion will highlight how the ethics consultation service can be beneficial to clinicians, patients and surrogates in difficult cases.

Moderators:
Laura Webster, RN MA is an ethics consultant for UWMC, ethics committee member at Harborview and practicing ER/ICU registered nurse. She earned both her master's in Bioethics and Humanities and Bachelors of Science in Nursing at the University of Washington.

Jamie Shirley, RN, PhD is a faculty member in the Nursing and Health Studies program at the University of Washington Bothell and adjunct faculty in the Department of Bioethics and Humanities. She also teaches the state-mandated certificate course for professional guardians. Her scholarship focuses on the complexities of autonomy and dependency, particularly for those with limited capacity.

For more information contact 206.543.5145 or bhinfo@u.washington.edu To request disability accommodation, contact the Disability Services Office at least ten days in advance at 206.543.6450/V, 206.546.6452/TTY, 206.685.7264/FAX, or email dso@uw.edu.