Orientation

Welcome to
Upstate University Hospital!

Clinical Ethics at University Hospital

Kathy Faber-Langendoen, MD
Director, Ethics Consultation Service
Chair, Center for Bioethics and Humanities
faberlak@upstate.edu 315.243.4868 (C)
3 things to know

1. How ethics consults work at UH
2. Particular policies you need to know
3. Current hot issues: the EHR & social media

1. Ethics Consults

- Help ID and think through options, consequences, in light of ethics, policy, legal constraints, etc.
- Can help mediate, if desired, but we are not the decision makers (those directly involved are)
- Formal consults documented in EHR; also willing to speak confidentially
- Available 7d/week, both campuses, call operator

Consult brochure
2. Policies you need to know

- NY is a VERY regulated state. Many ethical issues have specific NY law, including:
  - Informed consent
  - Medical decisions at end of life
  - Health Care Proxies
  - Confidentiality, including HIV testing and disclosure (sanctions for disclosing HIV status to family: don’t assume they know!)
  - Staff Rights to non-participation in health care
  - Treatment of the developmentally disabled

- Policies available online:
  - upstate.edu ➔ iPage ➔ Policies/Forms ➔ search for keyword

3. Current hot issues

- EHR
  - over-documenting
  - sharing passwords

- Social Media
  - Posting info on patients, EVEN IF DEIDENTIFIED, is a setup for ethical, professional, & legal problems
Questions?
Ideas to improve things?

• Feel free to contact me
  Kathy Faber-Langendoen, MD
  faberlak@upstate.edu
  315.243.4868 (cell)

• For more info about bioethics at SUNY Upstate, visit us on the web:
  upstate.edu/bioethics