

Model for Ethical Decision-Making

Long-Term Care Homes & Services Model for Ethical Decision-Making	
STEP I Identify the Problem	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Brief synopsis of case. Gathering of relevant facts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> clinical personal legal other ✓ Key Clinical facts: diagnosis, prognosis ✓ Personal Facts: age, sex, social and economic situation, family situation, etc. ✓ Legal Facts: mentally incompetent, personal power of attorney, advance directive ✓ Other: any other considerations influencing the issue/dilemma not covered in the above
STEP II Identify Ethical Question(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Does the case pose an ethical question? If so, is it an ethical issue/dilemma? Explain how this case poses an ethical issue/dilemma. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Key Ethical question: question about good/bad, right/wrong behaviour or conduct in the organization ✓ Ethical Issue: "situation" which raises a value question about right/wrong in the organization ✓ Ethical Dilemma: "situation" where there is a conflict of values, loyalties or obligations in the organization.
STEP III Identify Obligations & Responsibilities & Explore Alternatives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identify your obligations and responsibilities to resident, profession, employer and society. Explore outcomes, risks and benefits associated with each alternative.
STEP IV Examine Feelings/ Beliefs/Reasoning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Explore feelings of participants involved in issue / dilemma. Explore you own feelings about this issue / dilemma. Explore beliefs/opinions of participants. Explore your own beliefs. Explore reasoning of participants involved in issue / dilemma. Explore your own reasoning about this issue / dilemma.
STEP V Assuming and Evaluating Your Position	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stating your position. Identifying the reasons which support your position. Identify the ethical basis for your reasons. How might someone critique your position by using a different ethical theory or principle? How might you respond to these objections to our position? <p>See "Key Principles of Ethical Decision-Making"</p>
STEP VI Discussion with Ethics Committee	