## ETHICS CONSULT SERVICE

### Why would I ask for an ethics consultation?

You might consider an ethics consult if:

- You feel there is an unresolved conflict or misunderstanding among family, staff, or doctors about medical care or the patient's rights
- You have questions about who is the patient's decision-maker, "Who can best speak for the patient if the patient cannot speak for him/herself?"
- You are uncertain about continuing treatments
- You have questions about what is appropriate care
- You are confronted with difficult decisions to make at the end-of-life

#### Who can ask for a consultation?

- Patients
- Patients' relatives or close friends
- Nurses
- Physicians
- Hospital employees
- Students

#### Who are ethics consultants?

Ethics consultants are physicians, nurses, social workers, clergy and community representatives.

#### How do I ask for an ethics consultation?

Call the House Supervisor: 618.6735. Following your request, you will be contacted (Monday through Friday) by an ethics team member to arrange a meeting.

# Are there other resources at Valley View that might help me?

Yes. We want patients and families to feel secure and know they can call for support.

**Chaplain/spiritual care services:** 

384.6790 or 928.6858

**Social services:** 

384.6780 or 987.3173

Ethics consultants offer an educated and objective presence to facilitate communication. They clarify information to help patients, their families, physicians and caregivers identify shared goals to make good decisions for patient care.

To request an ethics consultation, please contact the house supervisor at 618.6735.





