

Final Objectives 2022-23

Ethics Committee

Chair: Jay M. Brenner, MD, FACEP

Board Liaison: John T. Finnell, MD, FACEP

Staff Liaison: Leslie Moore, JD

1. Identify and develop articles on ethics issues for ACEP publications considerations.
 - Ethical considerations when treating adolescent psychiatric emergencies.
 - Ethical and privacy concerns of real-time sharing of EM charting via patient portals. Work with Medical-Legal. (Ethics is the lead committee.)

Note: Articles for non-peer-reviewed publications, such as ACEP Now, do not require review by the Board of Directors prior to submission. Articles developed for submission to ACEP's peer-reviewed journals (Annals of Emergency Medicine and JACEP Open) must be submitted to the Board for a 30-day comment period prior to submission.

2. Review the *Policy Compendium of the Code of Ethics for Emergency Physicians* and recommend needed revisions to the Board of Directors.
3. Ethics Complaint Review Panel reviews ethics complaints, makes determinations, and reports final outcome to the Board of Directors.
4. Develop the following information papers:
 - Ethics and oversight of for-profit entities funding medical schools, emergency medicine residencies, and fellowships. Obtain input from the Medical-Legal Committee. (Ethics is the lead committee.)
 - Recommendations on life-sustaining treatment and resuscitation status orders for patients who present following a suicide attempt.
 - Ethics of mandated/expected return to in person nonclinical work post pandemic and the effects of burnout and resilience.
 - Ethics concerning 100% RVU compensation.
5. Review the following policies per the Policy Sunset Review Process:
 - Code of Ethics for Emergency Physicians
 - Confidentiality of Patient Information (and PREP titled “From Hippocrates to HIPAA: Privacy and Confidentiality in Emergency Medicine – Part 1: Conceptual, Moral, and Legal Foundations” and “From Hippocrates to HIPAA: Privacy and Confidentiality in Emergency Medicine – Part II: Challenges in the Emergency Department.”)
 - Conflict of Interest
 - Disclosure of Medical Errors
 - Guidelines for Emergency Physicians on the Interpretation of Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST)
 - Law Enforcement Information Gathering in the ED
 - Nonbeneficial (“Futile”) Emergency Medical Interventions

Determine by December 15 if the policies should be reaffirmed, revised, rescinded, or sunsetted. Submit any proposed revisions to the Board for approval by the end of the committee year.

6. Collaborate with the Medical-Legal Committee and the State Legislative/Regulatory Committee to develop a policy statement Policy Resource Education Paper (PREP) to address Amended Resolution 52(21) Standardization of Medical Screening Exams of Arrested Persons Brought to the ED. (Ethics is the lead committee.)
7. Collaborate with the Medical-Legal Committee and Public Health & Injury Prevention Committee to develop a medical bill of rights for all ED patients that includes rights for vulnerable patient groups and detained or incarcerated persons. (Ethics is the lead committee.)

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8. Serve as a resource to the Medical-Legal Committee to develop an information paper regarding the corporate practice of medicine, fee splitting, anti-trust issues related to GME, and exhibitors or sponsors at ACEP meetings. (Medical-Legal is the lead committee)
9. Develop a national study to survey emergency physicians regarding the incidence and impact of disruptive behavior in the ED. (Survey must be approved by the Board of Directors for dissemination.)