

Final Committee Objectives 2024-25

Ethics Committee

Chair: Eileen F. Baker, MD, PhD, FACEP
Board Liaison: Diana B. Nordlund, DO, JD, FACEP
Staff Liaison: Laura Lang, JD

1. Identify and develop articles on ethics issues for ACEP NOW publications consideration: Potential topics include:
 - Ethical considerations and recommendations for patients in the waiting room. Include lack of patient privacy in the era of boarding.
 - How ECMO is possibly changing the definition of death as costly CPR life extender.
 - Ethical issues of managing mass casualty incidents, including balancing other patient care needs against acute mass casualty patients during the era of boarding.

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. Develop or continue the development of information papers for *Annals of Emergency Medicine* or *JACEP Open* publication consideration:
 - How to approach moral injury within the physician's hospital system.
 - Private equity and emergency medicine. Perhaps include the issue of erosion of medical humanities/humanism in light of market forces.

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3. Review the Policy Compendium of the Code of Ethics for Emergency Physicians and recommend needed revisions to the Board of Directors.
4. Assign an Ethics Complaint Review Panel as needed to review ethics complaints, makes determinations, and report final outcome to the Board of Directors.
5. Collaborate with the Public Health Committee to develop a Policy Resource and Education Paper (PREP) on the impact of climate change in the ED and the ethical issue and duty of emergency physicians to respond as stewards of the environment that supports the health of patients. (Public Health is the lead committee.)
6. Review the following policies per the Policy Sunset Review Process:
 - Advertising and Publicity of Emergency Medical Care
 - Antitrust
 - Audiovisual Recording in the Emergency Department
 - Emergency Physician Stewardship of Finite Resources
 - Resource Utilization in the Emergency Department: The Duty of Stewardship – PREP

Determine by December 15 if the policies should be reaffirmed, revised, rescinded, or sunsetted.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.

7. Review the "Procedures for Addressing Charges of Ethical Violations and Other Misconduct" in the College Manual and recommend needed revisions to the Board of Directors by March 1, 2025 for submission to the Board of Directors by April 2025.

Note: Any changes to the "Procedures" will require a Council resolution to amend the College Manual. Resolutions for the 2025 Council meeting are due June 8, 2025.

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8. Collaborate with the Academic Affairs Committee, EMRA, and CORD to develop a policy statement and strategy to work with appropriate medical school organizations to develop guidelines that fees assessed to medical students for visiting student rotations should be based on the actual cost of administering the additional learner and with a fee structure that treats learners fairly and equitable. (Academic Affairs is the lead committee.)
9. Review the “Collective Bargaining, Work Stoppages, and Slowdowns” policy statement and determine if revisions are needed.
10. Provide input to the Medical-Legal Committee in their work to complete revisions to the “Use of Nurse Implemented Order Sets” policy statement. (Medical-Legal is the lead committee.)