Clinical Ethics Forum

Making decisions about health care can sometimes be difficult or confusing. When there is a conflict between the choices of what should be done, ethical dilemmas related to values, personal beliefs or religious belief can arise.

The Forum is made up of representatives from various clinical departments from the hospital as well as Governors of the Trust and is multidisciplinary.

The Forum aims to facilitate discussion amongst health care professionals or other involved parties faced with concerns or conflict over patient care decisions. These decisions include, but are not limited to:

- beginning and end of life decisions;
- end-of-life decisions
- the decision to offer treatment or not.

At a Clinical Ethics Forum meeting the members want to hear from the parties involved in the patient’s care in order to understand all the issues and concerns. The Forum is advisory only; the Forum does not make the decisions for the health care team. Instead, the Forum provides advice regarding the treatment or decision opinions in any given case, so as to help the health care team to come to agreement over the ethically permissible options.