



University of California
San Francisco

Ethics Committee Update

QIEC Meeting

June 2019

Sirisha Narayana, MD
Chair, Medical Ethics Committee
Chief, Ethics Consult Service



Ethics Committee/Service Overview

- Multidisciplinary (Parnassus, Mt Zion, Mission Bay)
 - SW, RN, Spiritual Care services, Risk, Legal, Patient Relations
 - MD: Neurology, Hospital Medicine, Pediatrics, Palliative Care, Emergency Medicine, Psychiatry/Psychology
 - GME rotating trainees
- Monthly meeting
 - Case discussion, policy evaluation, educational activities
- 24-7 consultation service
 - Available to providers, patients, and families

Activities and Accomplishments

May 2018 – May 2019

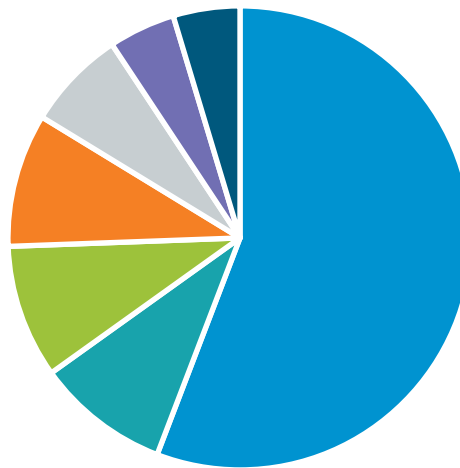
- Continued educational series at ethics meetings, grand rounds, and staff (RN) and physician group meetings
 - Combat *moral distress*: organized ethical reasoning
- Updates to UCSF policies
 - Pediatric brain death
 - Unilateral DNR
 - Organ donation after cardiovascular death (ongoing)
- New committee membership and representation
- In-person ethics consultations

Activities and Accomplishments

May 2018 - May 2019

- 48 from MD, 1 NP, 4 patient, 4 outpatient

Consultations (53)



- Medicine (24)
- Cardiology (4)
- Surgical Services (CT; HB; NSGY; Gen Surg: 1)
- Peds/NICU (4)
- ICU (3)
- OB/MFM (2)
- Neurology (2)

Recurring consult themes

May 2018 - May 2019

- Limitation of life-sustaining therapies
 - Interpretation and education
 - Medically *ineffective* care
 - Unilateral decision-making
- Decision-making for incapacitated patients, especially those without surrogate decision-makers (“unbefriended” patients)
 - Procedural decisions
 - Attending comfort with assuming decision-making authority
- Addressing *moral distress*

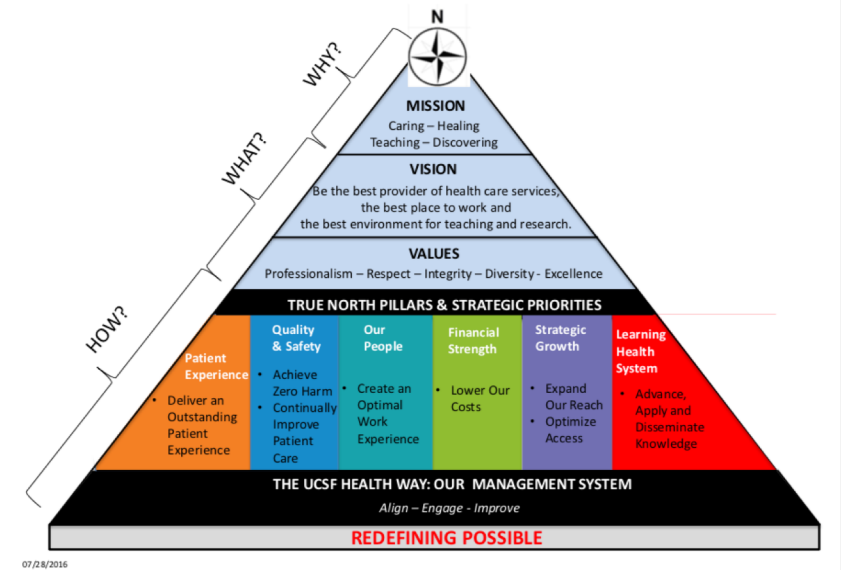
New themes

May 2018 - May 2019

- Reproduction
 - Sperm harvest, sterilization, pregnancy termination
- Brain death
 - Education of patient, family and providers on brain death and brain death policy
- Social components influencing health care
 - Provider and staff well-being in the context of behavioral challenges and discrimination
 - What constitutes “*health*”

Looking ahead

- Ongoing outreach across UCSF Health
- Community member on committee
- Integration with health system initiatives
 - GME Well-Being Committee
 - Health Equity initiatives
 - QI efforts





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