

## Stony Brook University Hospital Institutional Ethics Committee

### 7th Annual Medical Ethics Symposium

#### *Honoring Patient Wishes When They Can No Longer Speak for Themselves*

#### **Call for Abstracts**

Many healthcare institutions across the country, are faced with the complex concerns encompassing patient autonomy and determining best practices of honoring patient wishes when they can no longer speak for themselves.

Providing a principled framework for these decisions is of paramount importance, and raises both ethical and legal issues. The Institutional Ethics Committee, is interested in examining and addressing these multifaceted issues in a collaborative effort from an ethics and legal perspective with our healthcare community. We will be offering this as both an in-person and webinar event.

Abstracts for poster presentations are now being accepted. Professionals and students from all healthcare, legal as well as other associated disciplines are invited to submit poster proposals associated with ***Honoring Patient Wishes When They Can No Longer Speak for Themselves***. Chosen topics should consider evidenced based evaluation, ethical principles to be considered, effective strategies for implementation, risk assessment and /or guidance for conflict resolution.

#### **Suggested Topics Include:**

- Ethical & legal obligations in determining Capacity
- The importance of MOLST Forms (different Types)
- Deciphering Health Care Proxy's and Living Wills
- Legal differences of Health Care Agents, Surrogates and Court Appointed Guardians
- Ethical dilemmas when Agent/Surrogate/Guardian lacks capacity or is not honoring patient wishes
- Surrogate decision making when adult children disagree
- Strategies to promote ethical decision making when capacity is uncertain
- How do you ethically balance patient autonomy in the face of confusion?
- What existing strategies have you used or may be developed to effectively determine capacity when there is uncertainty among healthcare providers?

Abstracts must be submitted online to [jean.mueller@stonybrookmedicine.edu](mailto:jean.mueller@stonybrookmedicine.edu), by June 15, 2024. The Committee will review all abstracts received and will notify the presenting author of each abstract, communicating the acceptance or non-acceptance of the contribution by July 1, 2024. Final guidelines for posters will be sent upon abstract selection. A PDF of Completed Posters must be also submitted on line by July 15, 2024.

#### **Abstracts should be uploaded in PDF format and include:**

- Title of Project/Presentation
- Your name including earned degree(s) and professional title
- A short bio including description of your work and research or quality improvement initiatives in medical bioethics, in fewer than 500 words including: Statement of Purpose and/or aims of the research or quality improvement initiative, Ethical Principle Involved, Approach/Methodology/Strategy, Importance/Implications

**Posters** (mounted 36" x 48") will be displayed during the conference on August 2, 2024. All Poster presenters will be expected to be available for questions and answers during lunch and break times to share their projects. First, Second and Third Place Winners will be notified prior to the conference and given the opportunity to present their Poster in a 10-minute Rapid Fire Session during the Symposium.