



Center For Practical BIOETHICS

July 24, 2025

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Update for Our Supporters

Dear CPB Friend:

We are grateful for your support and interest in our work. In this era of authentic vs. artificial, and all of the variants in between, I can assure you that real human beings are behind the trustworthy, considered work of our team on ethical issues in health and healthcare.

In the coming weeks, we hope to announce our next John B. Francis Chair in Bioethics. This remarkable role will bring immediate energy to some of our time's most pressing ethics questions. The role has been designed for integration into our practical work in the community, while maintaining a strong focus on the scholarship, teaching, and discovery that will lead to tomorrow's promise.

In August, we will be able to announce a partnership with a long-admired and impactful community organization. This partnership represents deep innovation and upholds all of our core values, but especially justice and action. We can't wait to tell you more!

All are invited to our [AI & IPAs event](#) on August 28th, where we hope to introduce emerging professionals to bioethics and build stronger connections in the region.

Our [Breakfast of Champions](#), on the morning of September 18th, is not to be missed! We'll demonstrate how the Center comes alongside key ethics champions to support their work in Kansas City and beyond.

In all of these areas, we are charting a course forward in a time when we must actively and carefully choose what ought to be next in health and healthcare. Thank you for allowing us to accompany you on the journey.

With gratitude,

James Stowe, PhD
CPB President and CEO

Join the Fun @ Breakfast of Champions
[Make Vital Ethics Services Accessible!](#)

New technologies and advances in medicine raise new and complex questions. Making decisions when patients' lives are on the line, providers are at risk, and especially when there are no right or wrong answers has never been more challenging. Ethics services provide pathways to answers.

Please join us on **Thursday, September 18, 7:30 to 9:30 AM, at the College Basketball Experience.** We're bringing the healthcare community together for a delicious breakfast, hot coffee and a little friendly competition, all to help raise funds for 175 ethics consultations that will support up to 875 patients, families and care team members.



[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](#)

Hear **Krystal Pence, LMSW**, Care Management Manager at AdventHealth Shawnee Mission, on how bioethics support is improving outcomes for the most complex patients and those who care for them (read about Krystal below).

After breakfast, you'll have the chance to try your hand at a game-winning shot, make as many free throws as possible in a set amount of time, play like the big boys on a Slam Dunk court with rims at six different heights, or sit at the ESPN desk and call the highlights of actual NCAA basketball action!

Impact of Clinical Ethics Consultation at a Large Midwestern Health System

[Krystal Pence Has Front Row Seat](#)

Krystal Pence, LMSW has had a front row seat seeing the growing impact of the Ethics Committee on patient care and institutional policies at AdventHealth Kansas City in Shawnee Mission, KS.

Krystal describes what dealing with complex cases was like "before and after" her hospital's Ethics Committee began working the Center under the auspices of clinical bioethicist Ryan Pferdehirt, Vice President of Ethics.



[READ](#)

AI and IPAs

A Young Professionals Networking Event

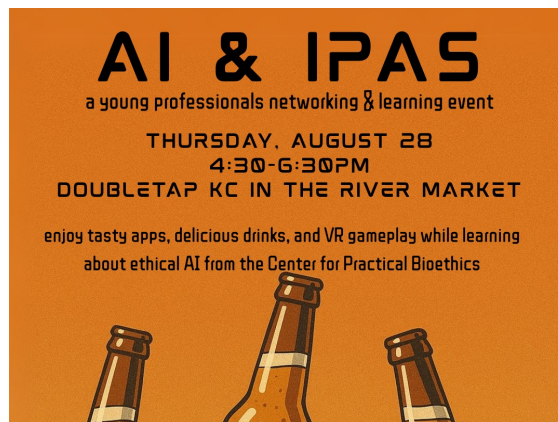
Are you a young professional looking to connect, unwind and explore the future of ethical technology?

Come find your “people” at this fun and interactive event that blends tasty appetizers, refreshing drinks, and immersive VR gameplay with big ideas about how artificial intelligence is shaping our world—and why ethics must lead the way.

Space is limited so buy your tickets now. What’s included for \$30?

- ☐ Craft beer, cocktails, and snacks
- ☐ A bite-sized talk on ethical AI
- ☐ 1 hour of VR gameplay
- ☐ Networking with Kansas City’s brightest young professionals

Whether you're into tech, policy, health, or just in it for the IPA, come curious and leave inspired.



August 28, 2025
4:30-6:30 p.m.
Double Tap KC
in the River Market

[BUY TICKETS](#)

Clinical Ethics Resources

You can use these free resources to educate your ethics committee and increase anyone’s ability to respond to complex ethical issues.

Ethics Dispatch [Ethical Perspectives on Medicaid Cuts](#)

With Medicaid cuts looming, Cassie’s hot topic in the July Dispatch applies the principles of bioethics to the cuts’ impact on rural healthcare. She concludes: “In towns like the one I grew up in – a town like many others – removing Medicaid could mean the collapse of half the healthcare system.”

Going deeper in his ethical musings, Ryan explores the philosophical concept of “ought implies can,” which holds that for someone to have a moral obligation, that person must have the ability to accomplish said obligation. Which begs the question: When do we have a moral obligation to provide Medicaid coverage?



[READ THE DISPATCH](#)

Clinical Ethics Corner Video Case Study [Distributive Justice: A Challenge for Clinical Ethics](#)

A patient in his early 40s recently came to

the U.S. to visit family and collapsed. He was taken to the hospital and received an early diagnosis of cancer. The patient is not a legal resident and does not have a “path to insurance”—not through Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, or otherwise. The cost of treatment is well over \$5 million, though the hospital is unable to give an exact amount. Because of this, the patient cannot pay out of pocket.

With treatment, there is a 90% chance of full recovery. Without treatment, death is likely in the near future. The patient would like to pursue treatment.

Does this patient deserve to receive the treatment? What is justice?

The Clinical Ethics Corner

Bioethics Case Study



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WATCH THE SHORT
VIDEO

READ THE CASE

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