

Ethics Grand Rounds

Language in Ethics & Clinical Consultation

Friday July 11, 2025 | 12pm – 1pm ET | Virtual (Zoom)

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This presentation will explore the use of language in ethics and clinical consultation with an aim to improve encounters with patients and families during which there is sharing of medical information and sensitive findings. We will delve into some of the literature on the topic, as well as some anecdotal and case examples which will lead to some recommendations for practice. Highlights will include such areas as: building rapport; enhancing psychological safety through trauma-Informed language; slow deployment or deferral of difficult or “bad” news; sparing use of medico-legal jargon and coded language; and, consideration of interpretation services, tone and body language.

Presentation Objectives:

- Review some of the major challenges around language during healthcare consultation.
- Offer case examples and strategies to develop means to improve healthcare information flow and strengthen therapeutic alliances.
- Discuss creative and novel approaches to language in consultation.

*Physician attendees will be eligible to receive one Section 1 **Continuing Professional Development (CPD)** credit as certified by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Other attendees may qualify for professional development credits through their respective colleges, at the discretion of those colleges. Links for providing feedback and registering for credit certificates will be available live in the session.*

Registration link:

https://ca01web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wY9GEOYURXi4U2dyc-iaxA

All are welcome! Closed Captioning is available.

Please direct any inquiries to Jordan Wadden (jordan.wadden@unityhealth.to).