



6th International Conference on Clinical Ethics Consultation

May 11-14, 2010 ♦ Portland Art Museum ♦ Portland, Oregon, USA

www.ethics2010.org



Abstract Submission Form – Papers

Please contact John Tuohey at ethics@providence.org with any questions.

Name: Helen D. Blank

Title/Degree: Ph.D., Bioethicist

Institution: New Jersey Medical School-Bioethics Advisor to Center for Humanism in Medicine, Director of Clinical Ethics Counseling, Vital Decisions, Millburn, NJ

Country: USA

Email: hblank@vitaldecisions.net

Phone including country code (<http://www.countrycallingcodes.com>): 00-1-973-379-0079

Proposed title of paper: A Pro-Change Ethics Consultation: Catalyzing Informed and Active Patient Decision Making During Advanced Illness

Abstract with 3 clearly stated objectives in 250 words:

Objectives:

1. To understand the unique methodology and scalable ethics consulting process which promotes pro-active, informed patients at end-of-life.
2. To examine the effectiveness of custom-tailored decision tools in facilitating the creation of an actionable Living Well Plan.
3. To analyze the high patient satisfaction rates and lower service intensity choices that result when patient preferences are integrated into treatment decisions.

The Vital Decisions “Living Well Program” is a patient-centered, telephonically delivered, ethics counseling program for seriously ill and dying patients, which by using a unique methodology and neutral approach, helps catalyze patients to become more active participants in decision making towards end-of-life. This approach allows for healthcare decisions that are far better aligned with a patient’s preferences and values.

Our counseling process enables patients to simultaneously improve quality of life and decrease utilization of unwanted treatments, often resulting in expanded use of palliative and hospice care. Based

on our unique proprietary methodology, the consultation focuses on creating informed and pro-active patients who are able to identify their priorities and goals of care under different scenarios, and develop a personal Living Well Plan that defines the necessary actions to meet their objectives. The Living Well Program moves the ethics consultation process “upstream,” by engaging patients in several counseling sessions in the last six to twelve months of life, rather than operating in a crisis-driven environment. Our electronic system and database allows for referrals on a national basis and the collection of extensive data for outcomes research.

If you have or will publish on this topic, please cite reference:

Vital Decisions has submitted a study entitled : A Program To Enhance Patient Decision Making During Advanced Illness by Jessica Nutik Zitter, MD, MPH to the Journal of Palliative Medicine

Are you planning to or will you be willing to submit a poster along with your paper?

Yes No