

Final Objectives 2023-24

Ethics Committee

Chair: Jay M. Brenner, MD, FACEP

Board Liaison: John T. Finnell, MD, FACEP

Staff Liaison: Leslie Moore, JD

1. Identify and develop articles on ethics issues for ACEP publications considerations.
 - Ethical issues of AI in the ED.
 - Ethical issues in how emergency physicians respond to the unprecedented vacancies in the 2023 match.
 - Ethical issues in interhospital transfer of ED patients.

Note: Articles for non-peer-reviewed publications, such as ACEP Now, do not require review by the Board of Directors prior to submission. Articles developed for submission to ACEP's peer-reviewed journals (Annals of Emergency Medicine and JACEP Open) must be submitted to the Board for a 30-day comment period prior to submission. Author attributions must also include that the article was developed for the Ethics Committee.

2. Review the *Policy Compendium of the Code of Ethics for Emergency Physicians* and recommend needed revisions to the Board of Directors.
3. Ethics Complaint Review Panel reviews ethics complaints, makes determinations, and reports final outcome to the Board of Directors.
4. Develop the following information papers:
 - Ethical issues in treating waiting room patients in the ED.

Note: Information papers must be submitted to the Board of Directors for a 30-day comment period prior to submission to ACEP's peer-reviewed journals (Annals of Emergency Medicine and JACEP Open). Author attributions must also include that the information paper was developed for the Ethics Committee.

5. Review the following policies per the Policy Sunset Review Process:
 - Observers in Emergency Medical Settings

Determine by December 15 if the policies should be reaffirmed, revised, rescinded, or sunsetted. Submit any proposed revisions to the Board for approval by the end of the committee year.

6. Collaborate with the Public Health Committee to develop a Policy Resource and Education Paper (PREP) on the impact of climate change in the ED and the ethical issue and duty of emergency physicians to respond as stewards of our environment that supports the health of our patients. (Public Health is the lead committee.)

Note: The Public Health Committee has an objective to review the policy statement "Impact of Climate Change on Public Health & Implications for Emergency Medicine" per the Policy Sunset Review Process.

7. Collaborate with the Medical-Legal Committee and Public Health Committee to develop a medical bill of rights for all ED patients that includes rights for vulnerable patient groups and detained or incarcerated persons. (Ethics is the lead committee).