

Australasian Association of Bioethics and Health Law (AABHL)

Clinical Ethics Stream: Online Seminar

Tuesday the 27th of May, 17.30 (AEDT)

Unpacking the facilitation work of clinical ethics consultations

Professor Clare Delany & Professor Lynn Gillam (University of Melbourne)

Abstract: The focus of this talk will be on the seven facilitation steps of the Critical Dialogue Method (CDM) of clinical ethics consultation. The term *critical* refers to the use of systematic and deliberative analysis, whilst *dialogue* refers to the use of collaborative discussion to generate shared understanding and resolution of an ethical problem.

The facilitative steps of CDM aim to identify ethically justified responses and also assist participants to gain greater moral clarity and understanding of the ethical problem, and confidence to respond as independent moral agents. Through detailed description of ethics facilitation methods within each step, we demystify the process of how ethicists can empower others to undertake ethical reasoning.

We also propose that the *critical dialogue* method shares goals with ethics education - both aim to scaffold a participant/learner's prior knowledge, promote critical and reflective thinking and build new insight and understanding. These shared goals open up the possibility of drawing from educational pedagogy literature to advance the scholarship of clinical ethics facilitation methods.

Speakers:

Prof Clare Delany is a Clinical Ethicist at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne, and has 15 years experience as a Clinical Ethicist at the Children's Bioethics Centre at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne. Clare also works as a clinical ethics consultant to health institutions who do not have their own embedded clinical ethicist. Clare is a nationally accredited mediator specialising in tertiary education settings, and in situations in clinical care where disagreements or misunderstandings prevent collaborative and respectful communication in the interests of a patient's health and wellbeing. Clare also chairs the University of Melbourne's Central Human Ethics Committee.

Prof Lynn Gillam is an experienced clinical ethicist, originally trained in philosophy (MA (Oxon) as a Rhodes Scholar) and bioethics (PhD, Monash University). Lynn is the Academic Director of the Children's Bioethics Centre at the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne and is involved in research across a wide range of topics in paediatric clinical ethics, with particular interests in the process of ethics consultation, the ethics of end of life decision-making more generally, moral distress and conscientious objection. Lynn provides clinical ethics case consultation, policy advice and leads research in paediatric clinical ethics. In recognition of her work, she was awarded the RCH Chairman's Medal in 2018.

All welcome

RSVP: to nathan.emmerich@anu.edu.au for a calendar invite and zoom link.

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