The Maryland Health Care Ethics Committee Network
at the Law & Health Care Program (L&HCP)
University of Maryland School of Law

invites you to attend

SHOULD CONSCIENCE BE YOUR GUIDE?
EXPLORING CONSCIENCE-BASED
REFUSALS IN HEALTH CARE

Tuesday, June 20, 2006
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
University of Maryland School of Law
500 W. Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Jointly Sponsored by:
The Johns Hopkins Ethics Committee and Consultation Service
University of Maryland School of Medicine
The Health Facilities Association of Maryland
The Institute for Johns Hopkins Nursing

Supported by an educational grant from MedStar Health

Endorsed by The American Society for Bioethics & Humanities
SHOULD CONSCIENCE BE YOUR GUIDE?
EXPLORING CONSCIENCE-BASED REFUSALS IN HEALTH CARE

A clinician refuses to remove a dying patient from a ventilator ... A pharmacist refuses to fill a prescription for emergency contraception ... A nursing home medical assistant refuses to stop a patient’s tube feedings ... Such refusals based on claims of conscience are becoming increasingly common. This timely conference will focus on exploring such refusals, including defining a claim of conscience and discerning valid from invalid claims, reviewing related legal trends and employment laws, identifying best institutional practices for protecting both health care providers’ and patients’ rights, and trouble-shooting difficult cases. This conference will be of interest to health care providers, administrators, labor lawyers, and policy makers who grapple with how to meet patients’ health care needs while accommodating staff with diverse beliefs.

The Maryland Healthcare Ethics Committee Network is a membership organization established by the Law and Health Care Program at the University of Maryland School of Law. Its purpose is to facilitate and enhance ethical reflection in all aspects of decision making in health care settings by supporting and providing informational and educational resources to ethics committees serving health care institutions in the State of Maryland. The Network will achieve this goal by:

• serving as a resource to ethics committees as they investigate ethical dilemmas within their institution and as they strive to assist their institution to function consistently with its mission statement;
• fostering communication and information sharing among Network members;
• providing educational programs for ethics committee members, other healthcare providers, and members of the general public on ethical issues in health care; and
• conducting research to improve the functioning of ethics committees and ultimately the care of patients in Maryland.
8:00–8:30 — REGISTRATION

8:30–8:45 — OPENING REMARKS
Diane E. Hoffmann, JD, MS

8:45–9:30 — EXPLORING CLAIMS OF CONSCIENCE
James F. Childress, PhD

9:30–9:45 — QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

9:45–10:15 — LEGAL TRENDS
Robin F. Wilson, JD

10:15–10:30 — BREAK

10:30–11:45
CONSCIENCE AND PROFESSIONAL DUTY—Considerations for Health Care Professionals
Defining the Issues—Edmund G. Howe, MD, JD
Nursing Perspective—Cynda H. Rushton, DNSc, RN, FAAN
Physician Perspective—Michael A. Williams, MD
Pharmacist Perspective—Jamie Reuter, PharmD, BCPS

11:45–12:00 — QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

12:00–1:00 — LUNCH

1:00–2:15 — THE INSTITUTION’S ROLE—Balancing Rights & Duties
Defining the Issues—Evan DeRenzo, PhD
Foundations & Limits of Faith-Based Access Restrictions—Msgr. Dennis Mahon, PhD
Foundations & Limits of a Pluralism/Social Covenant Approach—Brian Childs, PhD
Employment Laws & Conscientious Objection—Helen Norton, JD

2:15–2:30 — QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

2:30–3:30 — BREAK OUT SESSIONS
• Interface Between Institutional & Public Policy, Moderators: Martha Ann Knutson, JD & Jack Schwartz, JD
• Special Issues in Obstetrics & Pediatrics
  Moderators: Anita Catlin, DNSc, FNP, FAAN & Cynda Rushton, DNSc, RN, FAAN
• Ethics Committee Consultation
  Moderators: Brian Childs, PhD & Anita J. Tarzian, PhD, RN

3:30–3:45 — BREAK

3:45–4:30 — CONSCIENCE & COMPROMISE
Carolyn McLeod, PhD

4:30 — ADJOURN
Anita Catlin, DNSc, FNP, FAAN, Associate Professor of Nursing, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA
James F. Childress, PhD, Hollingsworth Professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of Virginia
Brian Childs, PhD, Director of Ethics and Spiritual Care, Shore Health System, Easton, MD
Evan G. DeRenzo, PhD, Bioethicist, Center for Ethics, Washington Hospital Center, MedStar Health; Adjunct Lecturer, Graduate Program in Biotechnology, Johns Hopkins University
Diane E. Hoffmann, JD, MS, Associate Dean and Director, Law & Health Care Program, University of Maryland School of Law
Edmund G. Howe, JD, MD, Professor of Psychiatry and Director, Programs in Ethics, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD
Martha Ann Knutson, JD, General Counsel/Legal Compliance Officer, Upper Chesapeake Health, Bel Air, MD
Dennis Mahon, PhD, Assistant Professor, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ
Carolyn McLeod, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Western Ontario, Talbot College, London, ON, Canada
Helen Norton, JD, Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, University of Maryland School of Law
Jamie Reuter, PharmD, BCPS, Clinical Specialist Critical Care, Program Director, Pharmacy Practice Residency, Union Memorial Hospital
Cynda H. Rushton, DNSc, RN, FAAN, Associate Professor, The Johns Hopkins University, School of Nursing, Faculty, Berman Bioethics Institute, Co-Chair, Ethics Service, Johns Hopkins Hospital
Jack Schwartz, JD, Director of Health Policy Development, Maryland Attorney General’s Office
Anita J. Tarzian, PhD, RN, Ethics & Research Consultant, Baltimore, MD, MHECN Program Coordinator/Research Associate, Law & Health Care Program, University of Maryland School of Law
Michael A. Williams, MD, Associate Professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Co-Chair, Ethics Service, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Department of Neurology, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, School of Medicine
Robin F. Wilson, JD, Professor of Law, University of Maryland School of Law
DIRECTIONS AND PARKING

·From the South Via I-95: From I-95, take I-395 (downtown Baltimore) and exit onto Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, staying in the right lane. At the fourth traffic light, turn right onto Baltimore Street. Turn left at the second traffic light onto Paca Street (get into right lane) and enter the Baltimore Grand Garage (visitors’ parking) on the right.

·From the South Via 295: Take 295 (Baltimore-Washington Parkway) to its end. As it enters Baltimore, it becomes Russell Street, then Paca Street. The Baltimore Grand Garage is two blocks beyond Lombard Street on the right.

·From the South Via I-97: Take I-97 North to 695 West to 295 North and follow directions from the south via 295.

·From the North: Take I-95 South to 695 West to 83 South. Continue on 83 to its end, past exit 1 (Fayette Street). Make a right onto Lombard Street (continue through town for about one mile), turn right onto Paca Street. The Baltimore Grand Garage is two blocks up on the right.

·From the East: Take I-95 South or I-895 South to I-395 (downtown Baltimore) and follow directions from the south via I-95.

·From the West: Take I-70 East to 695 South to I-95 North. From I-95, take I-395 (downtown Baltimore) and follow directions from the south via I-95.

The law school is directly across the street from the Baltimore Grand Garage, at the corner of Paca and Baltimore Streets. Parking fees are the responsibility of the participants.

FOOD SERVICE
Registration includes conference, materials and meals.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS
If you require special accommodations to attend or participate, please provide information about your requirements to Lu Ann Marshall at 410-706-4128 (1-800-735-2258 TTY/Voice) at least five business days in advance.

QUESTIONS
Please contact Lu Ann Marshall at 410-706-4128 or lmarshal@law.umaryland.edu.
CONTINUING EDUCATION: CEUs for nurses, nursing home administrators, and social workers have been applied for.

CME ACCREDITATION
This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of the University of Maryland School of Medicine, the University of Maryland School of Law, and The Institute for Johns Hopkins Nursing. The University of Maryland School of Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

CREDIT DESIGNATION
The University of Maryland School of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 6.5 category 1 credits toward the AMA Physician’s Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the activity.

This 7.5 contact hour Educational Activity (Educational Design I) is provided by The Institute for Johns Hopkins Nursing. The Institute for Johns Hopkins Nursing is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

FACULTY DISCLOSURE
It is the policy of the University of Maryland School of Medicine and The Institute for Johns Hopkins Nursing to ensure balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all of its educational activities. In accordance with the policy of the University of Maryland School of Medicine, faculty are asked to disclose all relevant financial relationships.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in this CME/CE activity, please provide information about your requirements to Lu Ann Marshall at (410) 706-4128 or (1-800-735-2258 TTY/voice) at least 5 business days in advance of the activity.

The Health Facilities Association of Maryland (HFAM) is a Registered Sponsor of professional continuing education with the National Association of Boards of Examiners of Long Term Care Administrators (NAB). This program has been submitted for continuing education credit approval.

The Health Facilities Association of Maryland (HFAM) is an approved sponsor by the Board of Social Work Examiners. This program is approved for five (5) Social Work Category I Education Units.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
At the conclusion of the course, participants will be able to:
· explain what “conscientious objection” means and how it is best accommodated in health care delivery.
· describe the burdens and benefits of allowing accommodating health care providers’ to make conscience-based refusals.
· recognize model policies and processes that appropriately balance health care providers’ and patients’ rights regarding claims of conscience.
# REGISTRATION FORM

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK TO:**  
**LU ANN MARSHALL, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW,**  
**500 WEST BALTIMORE STREET, BALTIMORE, MD 21201-1786**  
**OR REGISTER ONLINE AT: WWW.LAW.UMARYLAND.EDU/SPECIALTY/MHECN/INDEX.ASP**

Please make checks payable to “University of Maryland”

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Name (please print)

Affiliation or Employer

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number / FAX

Email Address

Break-Out Session Choice (pick one):  
- Institutional & Public Policy Interface  
- Special Topics in Obstetrics & Pediatrics  
- Ethics Consultation

Special Dietary Requirements ____________________________________________

Online registration will be confirmed by email and tickets will be held at the door. You may confirm reservations sent through the mail by calling 410-706-4128 or by emailing lmarshal@law.umaryland.edu.
Should Conscience Be Your Guide?

Register online at www.law.umaryland.edu/specialty/mhecn/index.asp