

Ethics in Spiritual Care

Monika Price and David C. Puxley, Spiritual Care Practitioners, NSHA

The following discussion questions are provided as an additional educational tool to accompany this fireside chat video. Please feel free to select the questions that are most relevant to your committee or group, revise and adapt them as needed, etc. As always, we welcome feedback on this or any other NSHEN resource.

Questions:

- What stood out most to you in this interview and why?
- Were there any aspects of spiritual care work that surprised you? Why?
- David talks about attending the humanity of the person. What would that involve?
- Monika mentions, that spiritual care providers write chart notes. What reservations do you think some patients may have around this?
 - How may these concerns be met / addressed?
- Monika and David describes spiritual care's approach as 'deeply relational'. Discuss what relationship-centered care implies for patients and for the health care professionals.
- Monika mentions the importance of being self-aware and having self-knowledge to be able to identify one's own shortcomings and biases. In your opinion, what are some of the strategies that health care providers in general can use to promote self-awareness and self-reflection in relation to the work they are doing?
- In your opinion, what can other health care providers learn from spiritual care practice in terms of self-care and self-healing?
- David describes the main role of spiritual care as being to foreground the humanity of the patient in health care team discussions. In your opinion, how may involvement of a spiritual care provider enlighten or influence the health care team's dialogue around the individual patient's care?

Resources

Canadian Association for Spiritual Care. *Code of ethics and Professional Conduct* [last updated Jan. 2019] <http://spiritualcare.ca/download/code-of-ethics-and-professional-conduct>

Canadian Association for Spiritual Care (CASC/ACSS). *Competencies for Spiritual Care and Counselling Specialist*. May 2011. <https://www.aiissq.org/docs/documents/Competencies.pdf>

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Zaidi. D. 2018. Influences of Religion and Spirituality in Medicine. *American Journal of Ethics*;20(7): E609-612. <https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/article/influences-religion-and-spirituality-medicine/2018-07>

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