

ETHICS NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH

Ethics Support with policy development

WHY SEEK ETHICS INPUT FOR POLICY?

Applying an 'ethics lens' can add value as policies are developed and reviewed. For more information on how Ethics Nova Scotia is available to support team members as they develop policy see our resource, [How can Ethics Help You as a Policy Developer?](#)

WHAT POLICIES WOULD BENEFIT FROM AN ETHICS REVIEW?

YES

Policies that affect vulnerable/disadvantaged populations or involve curtailing of liberty/freedom, or other kinds of value-based trade-offs are likely to benefit from review by Ethics Nova Scotia Health.

NO

Highly technical or procedural-based policies (e.g., how to use a new infusion pump) are less appropriate for review by Ethics Nova Scotia Health.

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If you are uncertain or have questions about including ethics in the review process, please contact ethicssupport@nshealth.ca

WHEN TO SEEK ETHICS SUPPORT FOR A POLICY?

An ethics review of a draft policy can often be completed at the same time as a policy is sent out for feedback from other groups who may be impacted by the policy. Please consider reaching out to Ethics Support earlier in the policy development process if:



Your policy group would like assistance with identifying and weighing the relevant principles and values that should guide the policy.



You need someone to help facilitate discussion within the policy development group with respect to disagreement about how different values should be weighted as part of determining the overall policy approach.



The policy you are developing is complex and you would like to invite a member of Ethics Nova Scotia Health's community to participate on the policy development group.

HOW DO I REQUEST ETHICS SUPPORT WITH POLICY?

There are three easy ways to request ethics support with policy:

- Submit an [online request form](#)
- Email: ethicssupport@nshealth.ca
- Call: **1-833-392-1413** and leave a message on our voicemail

Draft policy documents and (if applicable) the link to the policy review survey should be emailed to the email above.

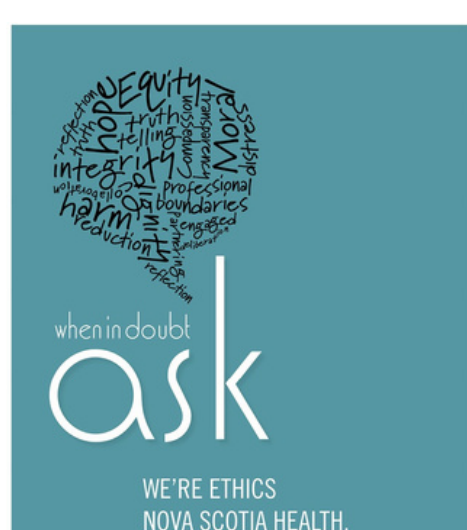
HOW LONG DOES A FORMAL POLICY REVIEW BY ETHICS NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH TAKE?

Ethics Nova Scotia Health's core function group, Organizational Ethics and Policy Support, meets on the 2nd Friday of the month to review policies.

Before submitting a policy for review with Ethics Support, please check our monthly [submission deadlines](#). Policies submitted after the deadline may not be reviewed until the following month.

Feedback from Ethics is provided to requestors typically a week after Organizational Ethics and Policy Support meets.

Access our new online request forms for ethics support on our services webpage



Our toll free number:
1-833-392-1413

