

Ethics, Decision-Making and Boundaries in Long-Term Care

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Healthcare workers encounter ethical dilemmas when caring for elderly or disabled older adults in long-term care (LTC). The resolution may be more challenging because seniors may have cognitive or physical impairments, limiting their ability to participate in decision-making. As a result, healthcare workers must identify others who may provide guidance and decisions when the client is unable to. This presentation provides practical advice on how to apply ethical principles to resolve everyday problems. These approaches will be discussed in light of advance directives and surrogate decision-making. Lastly, the presentation will review the relationship between caregivers and residents/patients and how to maintain healthy, productive boundaries.

Following this presentation, the participant will be able to:

1. Evaluate ethical issues in light of the seven key ethical principles guiding caregivers and residents/patients.
2. Identify practical ways to resolve common resident/patient ethical dilemmas they may face on a regular basis.
3. Understand how to balance the rights of seniors and the disabled to make their own decisions or to have decisions made for them by others who will respect their rights and preferences.
4. Review their relationships with residents/patients and identify ways to maintain clear, professional boundaries when interacting with residents on a daily basis.

The Brookdale Continuing Education (CE) Series is a pre-recorded webcast. • This program was submitted for approval to the following governing bodies and their required pre-approval statements listed below. The program is approved for CE credit when presented in the month listed. • Email cesupport@brookdale.com for more information about contact hours. • This activity is pending approval from the National Association of Social Workers. • This program has been submitted to The Commission for Case Manager Certification for approval to provide board certified case managers with 1.0 hour. • Brookdale Senior Living Inc. is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #0221. • This activity has been submitted to Emergency Nurses Association for approval to award contact hours. Emergency Nurses Association is accredited as an approver of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.