The Optimum Care Committee (OCC) is an available resource at MGH to review and consult with clinicians, patients and families about ethical issues regarding the care of adult patients at MGH, especially during times of conflict at end of life. The OCC is comprised of interprofessional membership, including physicians, nurses, social workers, chaplains, rehabilitation professionals, respiratory therapists and community members.

- Patients, families or clinicians can place an OCC consult.
- Examples of consults:
  - A patient is approaching end of life, and the family does not seem to understand this. Usual measures of trying to assist the family have failed.
  - A patient has had a procedure, and does not seem to be recovering. As a clinician, you believe that all signs point to end of life. Others on the team do not agree with you/others. Usual measures of team discussion are not working.
- Occasionally, clinicians want to talk about the case, and consider a consult, but express uncertainty as to the appropriateness of their request. In such cases, please feel free to contact by page or email, one of the OCC senior members, to talk it through:
  - Ellen Robinson RN PhD, Nurse Ethicist (OCC Co-Chair)
  - M. Cornelia Cremens MD (OCC Co-Chair)
  - Emily B. Rubin MD (OCC Co-Chair)
  - Thomas McCoy MD (OCC Co-Chair)
  - Mary Zwirner LICSW, MSW (OCC Senior Consultant)
  - Frederic Romain RRT, D. Min. (OCC Senior Consultant)
- Do not hold back in a state of moral distress or in confronting an ethical dilemma, rather, reach out to an ethics resource for assistance and support!!
- OCC consults are formally taken Monday through Friday 8am-4:00pm—consult ethics beeper #32097 to obtain assistance. During nights and weekends, please contact your supervisor for assistance, consider on call chaplain and SW, and email Robinson, Cremens, McCoy and Rubin if a discussion/response is needed.

Revised, October, 2017