

Expression of interest.

Role of member of the Clinical Ethics Group, based on a collaboration between Swansea Bay University Health Board and Swansea University (Faculties of Medicine, Health and Life Science and Arts and Humanities).

The Clinical Ethics Group (originally Clinical Ethics Committee) was established in 2005 to support clinicians making difficult decisions about patient care. This was later widened so that any member of staff could seek guidance in respect of an ethical issue which may have an impact on patient care. The Group can only advise, it cannot make the final clinical decision.

Please see the Terms of Reference for the Group below for further detail.

Currently, Expressions of Interest are being sought for interested persons to sit as a member of the Clinical Ethics Group. The following information should provide sufficient information for potential applicants to consider expressing their interest.

Expressions of interest should indicate why you wish to be considered for the post and what qualities you consider you can offer to the Group. This should be done through e-mail SBU.ClinicalEthicsGroup@wales.nhs.uk by 31st August 2021.

Organisation – Swansea Bay University Health Board and School of Health and Social Care, Swansea University

Contract type – available for all clinical and non-clinical staff within Swansea Bay University Health Board and all academic staff within the Faculties of Medicine, Health and Life Science and Arts and Humanities, Swansea University.

Terms of Reference - 4 years tenure in the first instance, but this can be followed by a second term of 4 years. Memberships is reviewed annually by the Group and a member may resign or be removed.

Closing date – 31st August 2021.

Remuneration – There is no additional remuneration for this post.

Hours – Meetings are currently every two months during working hours. Currently meetings are being trialled on different days so as to ensure that as many as possible can attend meetings during the working day. Meetings can vary from between 30 minutes and 2 hours depending on the agenda of the meeting.

Location – Prior to Covid-19 meetings were held at various venues within the University and the Health Board. Since March 2020 meetings have been conducted online and it is anticipated that meetings will be continued online, and will be through the medium of Teams.

Training- Members are expected to undertake any training as is considered necessary in order for them to be able to fully participate within meetings by gaining an understanding of key ethical concepts and principles.

Main purpose of the post – This Group comprises of academics and Health Board staff with a view to:

Providing guidance to any employee of SBUHB in respect of specific clinical ethical dilemmas and policies affecting patient care;

Considering DBUHB policies/procedure/protocols that affect healthcare delivery;

Providing education and training to raise awareness and importance of ethical issues in healthcare.

Duties involved:

1. To attend CEG meetings as and when scheduled.
2. To consider any relevant documentation presented that may require an ethical opinion and to be willing to voice an opinion on that matter.

Desired criteria- This post is not reliant upon qualifications or experience within the academic or clinical field but instead seeks applicants who are able to identify and ask key ethical questions, consider ethical arguments, consider alternative actions, offer an objective perspective and be willing to challenge differing opinions in a fair and objective manner. The applicant should possess the following qualities:

1. An ability to engage with the relevant technology required for distribution of relevant documentation and for attending Teams meetings;
2. An ability to engage with the other members and to have the confidence to put forward a point of view;
3. The Group aims to have a diverse, knowledgeable and experienced membership in order to be able to address the wide range of Ethical referrals it may receive. Please therefore expand upon your own ethical experience and identify any skills that you can bring to the Committee within your expression of Interest. In order to create a diverse membership, applications from healthcare professionals (such as doctors, nurses, other allied healthcare professionals (any specialities)) are welcome, but equally, applications from those not involved in the care of patients are also welcome.