Paediatrics Ethics Education for Residents (PEER)

https://intra.lhsc.on.ca/ethics/ethics-education/paediatrics-ethics-education-residents-peer

Core curriculum:

1. Intro to ethics (and law)
2. Theories and frameworks
3. Capable consent
4. Surrogate consent
5. Privacy/confidentiality
6. Disclosure of error
7. Medical futility, permanent vegetative state and brain death
8. Industry interactions

1. Intro to ethics and law
   Objectives:
   - What is ethics
   - Relationship to law and policy
   - Values-based decision making
   - Cognitive biases

2. Theories and frameworks
   Objectives:
   - What is “applied ethics”
   - Kinds of theories
     - Monoistic – deontology, utilitarianism
     - Pluralistic – principalism
   - Kinds of anti-theory
     - Casuistry
     - Virtue-based ethics
   - Processes for ethical deliberation
   - LHSC ethics framework

3. Capable consent
   Objectives:
   - Presumption of capacity
   - Requirements for a child to provide informed consent
     - Capacity
     - Disclosure
     - Voluntariness
   - Barriers to and influences on a child’s ability to provide consent
     - Volunteriness vs coercion
   - Balancing parent/child disputes
   - The role of assent
4. Surrogate consent
Objectives:
- Hierarchy of substitute decision makers
- Parent authority vs autonomy
- Principles of substitute decision making
  - Prior applicable, capable wishes
  - Best interests – framework for evaluating best interest
- Limitations to parental rights to refuse treatment
- Role of court intervention

5. Privacy/confidentiality
Objectives:
- Understanding PHIPA
- Mandatory disclosures
- Parental disclosure
- Truth-telling
- Visitation and privacy

6. Disclosure of error
Objectives:
- Mandatory disclosure
- What is harm?
- Near misses
- LHSC policies
- CMPA/CPSO recommendations

7. Medical futility, permanent vegetative state and brain death
Objectives:
- Difference between brain death, coma, permanent vegetative state and minimally conscious state
- Defining futility
- Parental rights
- Potential limitations to parental rights

8. Industry interactions
Objectives:
- What are conflicts of interest?
- How are conflicts of interest managed?
- LHSC/Schulich/CMA policies

Others:
- Resource allocation (patients without OHIP, organizing special tests, specialist referral)
- Interprofessional conflicts
- Moral distress
- Psychiatric forms (rules for applying them, how to properly give the form)
  - Capable consent
- Boundary violation
- Quality improvement