

Clinical Ethics Advisory Group (CEAG)- Special Interest Meeting

Saturday 6th December 2025, 1-5pm

Room 302, 3rd Floor, Manawa
276 Antigua Street, Christchurch

This four-hour session will focus on the work of CEAGs across Aotearoa: referral trends and processes, education functions, membership, visibility/accessibility, resourcing, and sustainability. It is a pre-conference workshop ahead of AABHL 2025 which starts on 7th December.

A number of centres across New Zealand operate a Clinical Ethics Advisory Group (CEAG) providing clinical ethics advice to healthcare staff on receipt of a referral. Requests are generally for support with patient care and clinical decision-making but can also be about organisational and systems issues. CEAGs have been set up in an ad hoc manner over the years, with minimal/no resourcing and no national oversight or support. This has resulted in inequity of access to ethics guidance in many districts.

Programme

12.45 Registration (Ground Floor)

13.00 Mihi whakatau, welcome and housekeeping – John Hewitt

13.10 **Patient Rights: A modern fairy-tale**

Associate Professor Cindy Towns, General Physician and Geriatrician

13.40 **Futility: An idea whose time has gone**

Dr Jonathan Adler, Palliative Medicine Physician

14.10 **CPR: Let's go back to the future**

Dr Tammy Pegg, Cardiologist

14.40 **Panel discussion** - chaired by Kate Grundy

Cindy Towns, Jonathan Adler, Tammy Pegg, Sondra Davoren (Senior Legal Counsel Te Waipunamu and Sarah Bush (Bioethics Centre and University of Otago and Waitaha CEAG)

15.10 BREAK

15.30 **"CEAGs around the Motu": activity, processes, opportunities and challenges**

Presentations from: Auckland (Fiona Miles), Counties (Josh Manukonga), Waikato (Wendy Muircroft), Taranaki (Di Stokes), Wellington (Cindy Towns), Nelson (Craig Fenwick), Christchurch (John Hewitt) and Dunedin (Tania Moerenhout)

15 minutes for feedback and discussion

16.45 Round up and close by Kate and John

17.00 Close. Social drinks for those who can stay.