



Jonathan Breslin, PhD

EthicScan Canada Associate, Health Care Ethics Consultant

Specialty	Health Care Ethics Assurance	Complaint Investigation	Organizational Ethics	Partnering and Procurement
Major	X			
Major		X	X	X

Jonathan Breslin is a qualified ethics consultant with extensive training and experience in health care ethics. He has a PhD in philosophy, with a specialization in bioethics, from McMaster University, and a Fellowship and Senior Fellowship in Clinical and Organizational Ethics from the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics. From 2005 until 2012 he served as the full time Ethicist at North York General Hospital, a large community teaching hospital in Toronto, where he built and led that organization’s first comprehensive ethics program.

He is a skilled educator, having delivered more than 200 lectures, seminars, and case discussions in health care ethics, using a range of pedagogies. He currently has a status-only faculty appointment with the University of Toronto’s Institute for Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, and has recently taught a third year undergraduate course on ethical issues in death and dying. Jonathan’s success as an educator stems from his ability to effectively adapt his teaching methods to his audience, and to explain complex concepts and ideas in a very accessible manner.

He has also provided ethics consultation on more than 400 clinical cases, on a wide array of issues involving many different patient populations. Dr. Breslin has sat on numerous hospital research ethics boards and has authored many ethics-related health care policies. He currently works part-time as an independent ethics consultant, providing ethics services for health care and social service organizations. Dr. Breslin specializes in establishing and training ethics committees, developing ethics frameworks and decision making tools, and helping health care organizations excel at the ethics component of accreditation. He is part of the EthicScan team providing professional ethical dilemma advisory services to staff at Correctional Services Canada.

Jonathan’s experience in health care ethics runs across the spectrum, including genetics, obstetrics, academic and community acute care, rehabilitation, geriatrics, and long term care. He has worked with many vulnerable populations, including infants and children, visible minorities, patients with mental health challenges, the elderly, patients with cognitive impairments, and patients from lower socioeconomic status.

In addition to his clinical ethics experience Jonathan has also provided advice and policy development on organizational ethics issues, including preferential treatment and pandemic planning. He believes that values are the foundation of organizational ethics; an ethical organization is one that truly lives its values day in and day out.

Jonathan lives and works out of Thornhill, a community north of Toronto, where he engages in his favourite pastime: spending time with his wife and two children.

Institution	Degree	Year
McMaster University	PhD	2003
McMaster University	MA	1999
York University	BA (Hons)	1997

