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	Hospital Ethics Committee		Issue No.	001
	Policy On Hospital Ethics Committee Structure, Composition and Function		Issue Date:	
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1.0 Purpose

This policy shall be established to describe the Hospital Ethics Committee (HEC), its composition and its function in the hospital in guaranteeing the safety, protection of rights and promotion of health for the patients of CLMMRH through dialogue, clinical ethics evaluation.

2.0 Scope

This policy shall involve all CLMMRH Healthcare providers and Health Ethics Committee members.

3.0 References


N/A

4.0 Definition of Terms

Terms	Definition
Hospital Ethics Committee	Is an independent, multidisciplinary advisory board created by a mandate from the CLMMRH Medical Center Chief. The purpose of the HEC is to guarantee the safety, protection of rights and promotion of health for the patients of CLMMRH by facilitating the ethical reflection of moral problems in health care delivery in CLMMRH on all levels. It accepts referrals for ethical presentations and resolution using accepted ethical principles.


5.0 Responsibility

Designate	Responsibilities
Hospital Ethics Committee	<p>Give advice to the hospital board by developing guidelines for CLMMRH.</p> <p>Organize education in moral questions for the hospital community.</p> <p>Create conditions for ethical case deliberation in the wards.</p>

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6.0 Policies

- 6.1 The HEC has formulated Ethics Policies for the hospital to be used as guidelines. These policy guidelines have to be disseminated to the hospital personnel, consultant staff, resident trainees and students involved in the care of patients of CLMMRH in a forum.
- 6.2 As an advisory committee the HEC, unlike the Research Ethics Review Committee (RERC) whose approval is necessary for research protocols involving patients to proceed, can only give advice as far as policy content is concerned.
- 6.3 As such, the HEC is truly an independent body free to give dissenting advice or opinion. Administrative authority for implementation is the responsibility of the administration. Acceptance by the hospital health care providers is just as important for implementation.
- 6.4 **Constitution of the Hospital Ethics Committee-** The principle of representation requires that the composition of the CLMMRH HEC should reflect diversity. Its regular members include the following:
- 6.4.1 Medical doctors from the different specialty departments (Chairman, Training officers)
 - 6.4.2 Psychiatrist or Clinical Psychologist
 - 6.4.3 Social Worker
 - 6.4.4 Religious/ hospital Chaplain
 - 6.4.5 Representative from administration
 - 6.4.6 Patient representative
 - 6.4.7 Legal person
- 6.5 **Selection of members-** While the CLMMRH HEC remains under the authority of the Medical Center Chief, it maintains its independence and develops its competence in ethical decision making. This covers the nomination and appointment procedures of its members.
- 6.5.1 It is the responsibility of the CLMMRH Medical Center Chief to formally appoint the members of the HEC and their terms of office.

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7.0 Provision of amendment

This policy shall be amended anytime whenever necessary.

Prepared by/Date:	Approved by/Date:
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