Clinical ethics support (CES) services are experiencing a phase of flourishing and of growing recognition. At the same time, however, the expectations regarding the acceptance and the integration of traditional CES services into clinical processes are not met. Ethics rounds as an additional instrument or as an alternative to traditional clinical ethics support strategies might have the potential to address both deficits. By implementing ethics rounds, Schmitz et al. from the Department of History, Theory and Ethics in Medicine, Department of Neurosurgery, Department of Surgical Intensive Medicine and Intermediate Care, Department of Cardiology, Angiology and Internal Intensive Medicine, RWTH Aachen University, were able to better address the needs of the clinical sections and to develop a more comprehensive account of ethics quality in our hospital, which covers the level of decisions and actions, and also the level of systems and processes and aspects of ethical leadership ¹⁾.

1)

Schmitz D, Groß D, Frierson C, Schubert GA, Schulze-Steinen H, Kersten A. Ethics rounds: affecting ethics quality at all organisational levels. J Med Ethics. 2018 Aug 28. pii: medethics-2018-104831. doi: 10.1136/medethics-2018-104831. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 30154217.

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