

## **Speaking Up in Ethical Dilemmas**

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Branch: Diagnostics and Therapeutics

### **Project Summary**

Many medical students feel uncomfortable advocating for their patients and professional values when faced with ethical dilemmas. I created a new interactive ethics course for clinical students to brainstorm strategies for responding to common challenges. I used a gallery walk design followed by a discussion to generate diverse ideas.

### **Action Items/Outcome**

The class of 2019 took my new course during the July 2017 intersession. Student evaluations show that most students learned new ways to speak up that they would feel comfortable using in the future. The majority also recommended the course for future classes.

### **Conclusion/Reflection**

By purposefully thinking through ethical challenges and how to respond, students become more prepared to speak up in the future. This type of practiced learning can help students become stronger advocates and can reduce the distress related to staying silent or feeling complicit in unethical situations.