

**Public Health Ethics in Practice:**  
**Impact and relevance of ethical frameworks on decision-making during the H1N1 pandemic**  
**March 17, 2010**  
**Hôtel le St-Paul, Montréal (Qc)**

**Meeting objective:**

This meeting will bring together representatives from Canadian provinces and territories, along with individuals from key federal health agencies and international pandemic policy experts, to discuss the application and integration of normative ethical analysis within public health practice and policy. By encouraging comparative analysis and discussion both of frameworks for ethical decision-making in different pandemic plans, and of actual decision-making across a variety of jurisdictions in response to the 2009 global influenza A/H1N1 outbreak, the meeting aims to do a 360 degree exploration of the relevance and utility of ethical deliberation and justification in the context of a public health emergency, as well as of unmet needs and directions for the continued development of applied public health ethics tools and guidance.

**Specific questions:**

Three key questions will be addressed during this meeting:

1. How did existing ethical frameworks for pandemic planning and response assist, guide and/or constrain actual deliberation and decision-making during the H1N1 response?
2. What are the implications of the existence of a variety of guides for ethical decision-making during a public health crisis?
3. What support, resources, and access to expertise in terms of practical ethical guidance are needed by public health actors at territorial/provincial, regional, and local levels?

**Rules of engagement:**

In order to encourage openness and the productive exchange of information, the meeting will be conducted under the Chatham House Rule: “participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.”

## AGENDA

### Public Health Ethics in Practice:

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Time	Activities	Facilitator	Length
8:30 am	Welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objectives</li> <li>• Ice-breaking activity</li> </ul>	NCCHPP	30 mins
9:00 am	Survey of pandemic plans and related policy statements containing frameworks for ethical decision-making	C. McDougall	30 mins
9:30 am	Keynote speaker – Cécile Bensimon		45 mins
10:15 am	Light nutrition break		15 min
10:30 am	How did existing ethical frameworks for pandemic planning and response assist, guide and/or constrain actual deliberation and decision-making during the H1N1 response? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Break out groups</li> <li>• Report back in plenary session</li> </ul>	NCCHPP	90 mins
Noon	Lunch (coffee and deserts served in meeting room)		45 min
12:45 pm	Keynote speakers – Pilar Ramón-Pardo and Lindsay Wilkinson		45 mins
1:30 pm	What are the implications of the existence of a variety of guides for ethical decision-making during a public health crisis? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plenary session</li> </ul>	NCCHPP	30 mins
2:00 pm	What support, resources, and access to expertise in terms of practical ethical guidance are needed by public health actors at territorial/provincial, regional, and local levels? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Break out groups</li> <li>• Intervention by Eve Cheuk</li> </ul>	NCCHPP	30 mins
2:30 pm	Nutrition break		15 mins
2:45 pm	(Cont'd) What support, resources, and access to expertise in terms of practical ethical guidance are needed by public health actors at territorial/provincial, regional, and local levels? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report back in plenary session</li> </ul>	NCCHPP	55 mins
3:40 pm	Meeting wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting evaluation</li> </ul>	C. McDougall	20 mins