

SCRIP BEST PRACTICE FORUM

Presents the

Dr. Albin T. Jousse Lecture Series

Thursday, November 19, 2015, 1200-1300
520 Sutherland Drive, Toronto, ON M4G 3V9
Room B10, Lyndhurst Centre
<http://www.toronto-fes.ca/lectures>

Topic:

Making Lists And Checking Them Twice. Can We Reliably Distinguish Research From Clinical Care? Does It Matter Anymore?

Presented by

Dr. Ann Heesters

Abstract:

An article in the December 2007 issue of *The New Yorker* magazine put the world of healthcare on notice. A young intensivist, with a PhD in Public Health, had demonstrated that a simple checklist -one that reminded teams to do what they already knew they should do - had saved a group of Michigan I.C.U.s an estimated hundred and seventy-five million dollars in costs and more than fifteen hundred lives in only 18 months. That checklist, and the supports that attended it, was remarkable not only for its ability to change behaviours and outcomes. It also made it clear that regulators could no longer reliably tell which interventions should be described as research and which constituted quality improvement initiatives.

Most large hospitals now aspire to be “learning health care systems” where we all strive to innovate and to improve our practice daily basis. The responsibility to generate knowledge that can improve patient care is often described as a moral one; and one that is shared by patients, clinical teams and researchers alike. In this talk I will describe some of the challenges and opportunities presented by this new approach to knowledge generation.

Biography:

Ann Heesters is the Associate Director of Bioethics at Toronto’s University Health Network, Chair of the UHN Rehabilitation Science and Medicine Research Ethics Board, and is a Bioethicist with the University of Toronto’s Joint Centre for Bioethics. Ann has been practicing in the field for approximately fifteen years and was the Director of Ethics at The Ottawa Hospital before coming to Toronto in 2009.

She has an abiding interest in the evolving standards of practice for health care ethicists and, with her colleagues at the American Society of Bioethics and Humanities, helped to author a code of ethics for ethicists. She was also a founding member of PHEEP (Practicing Healthcare Ethicists Exploring Professionalization) and of the newly established non-profit Board called CAPHE (the Canadian Association of Practicing Healthcare Ethicists).

A former reservist with the Canadian Infantry, Ann periodically reviews research proposals (related to the rehabilitation of veterans and active duty service members) for the United States Department of Defense.