

Developing a Consistent Approach to Complex, Contentious and High Profile Cases



How can we take control of the situation?



- Will working together help?
- Will it look like we are “ganging up” on the family or “sticking together”?
- When do we call someone else in?
- How do we stop the “miracle workers” from holding out false hope?

The Issues



- Second opinion
- Support
- Ethics

Second Opinion



	Pros	Cons	Barriers
Continue as is			
“Partner Hospital” UK			
“Partner Hospital” International			
Ad hoc call out for advice and support			
Small area dependent networks			
Condition specific Second opinion network			
Something more formal			

Support



	Pros	Cons	Barriers
Regular Schwartz rounds			
Support buddy hospital			
Support faculty as needed			
In house support through psychologist/Occ health			
Support for families			
Support for patient (occasionally)			

Ethics



- How are we managing ethics for these cases?
- Proactive, set criteria
- Ad hoc
- Use other hospitals?
- Involve local University Ethics experts?