



Brown Medical School and the Ocean State Ethics Network present:

**NO PLACE LEFT TO GO...  
ETHICAL DILEMMAS IN R.I. FREE CLINIC**

**September 22, 2005**

**8:00-10:00 am**

Brown University, Chancellor's Dining Room  
Corner of Thayer and George Street  
144 Thayer Street, Providence, RI



Rhode Island Free Clinic (RIFC) opened in 1999 as our State's only clinic dedicated to providing primary health care exclusively to uninsured adults.

**Consider that free access doesn't imply open access.** Can we identify justifiable criteria relevant to the decision of who gets the appointment? What is meant by "medical need?" Can a fair decision be made in the face of overwhelming need?

**Moderator:** Jay M. Baruch, MD – Director, Ocean State Ethics Network, Brown Medical School

**Panelists:** Judith Koegler, RN – Nurse Clinic Coordinator, Rhode Island Free Clinic  
Lisa Smolski – Executive Director, Rhode Island Free Clinic  
Caroline Troise, MD – Volunteer Medical Director, Rhode Island Free Clinic

**Objectives:**

- ◆ Understand how RI Free Clinic is different than community health centers.
- ◆ Analyze how lacking health insurance can have non-health related consequences.
- ◆ Understand the challenges faced by caregivers who offer free care.
- ◆ Discuss strategies to ensure access and high-quality care to the community of uninsured persons when resources are limited.

**Case:** A volunteer interpreter calls RIFC to inform its nurse that her uninsured family member has uncontrolled diabetes and desperately *needs* an appointment. Soon after, the director of an agency that collaborates with RIFC calls to request an appointment for a close friend who lost health insurance when he lost his job and now complains of dizziness and an elevated blood pressure. The director says his friend *needs* to be seen. Only one patient can be taken.

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Call Donna at 401-863-3969, or email [Donna\\_Goodnow@Brown.edu](mailto:Donna_Goodnow@Brown.edu) to RSVP or get directions.  
There is no fee for this program. Breakfast will be served.

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*Brown Medical School is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Brown Medical School designates this educational activity for a maximum of 2 category 1 credits towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the activity.*

*Nursing and social work CEUs have been applied for.  
Nursing CEUs sponsored by RWMC Nursing Center for Practice and Education*

