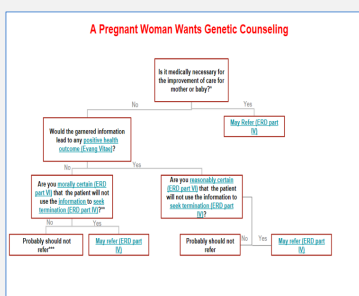
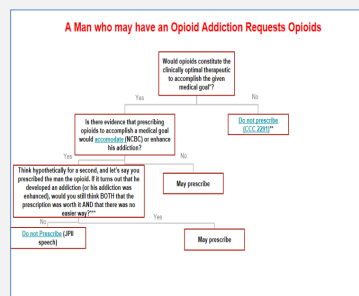
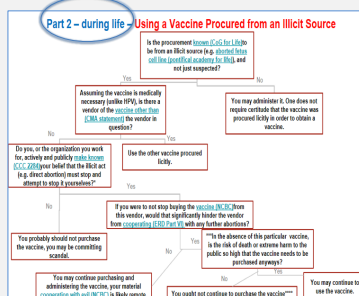
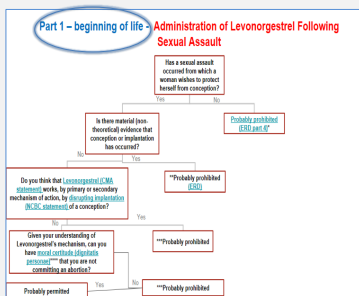
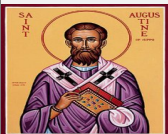


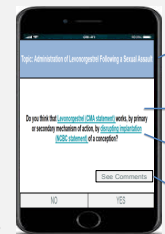
# THE CLINICAL CONSCIENCE SUPPORT TOOL

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This tool is for those medical professionals and students who want to form and apply their consciences in a way that is consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church.

- The Problem.** "Proportionate means," "ordinary means," "the principle of double effect," "moral certitude," and "proximal material cooperation" are some of the philosophical concepts used in medical ethics. Oftentimes, well-intentioned clinicians misunderstand or misapply these concepts – or worse, they think that ethics is too complex and should be left to professionals.
- The Solution.** The Clinical Conscience Support Tool takes challenging, abstract concepts and translates them in a clinical context. This tool is designed to act like a good system ethics clerk – when you ask the right medical questions you can arrive at a morally sound conclusion.
- The Technique.** This is a tool designed to help form the provider's conscience and to assist with patient counseling. This is not an "ethics algorithm" or a "decision tree." Rather than forcing a physician/nurse to know ethics and ethical considerations and then apply abstract principles to specific cases, this method brings the relevant ethical consideration to the physician/nurse and asks them to do what they do best – make a medical judgment.
- Conclusion.** Catholics are duty-bound to follow their well-formed consciences when considering open questions. This tool should help physicians/nurses employ their conscience to arrive at a sound ethical decision.
- The Ultimate Goal.** This tool is made into a free mobile application for all Catholic health professionals and students. The tool can then be expanded, edited, and updated by experts in medical ethics.



- Topic – an open question in the Church that only you can decide
- Conscience-forming question with a yes or no answer
- Hyperlinked primary sources
- Further explanation with helpful comments (as needed)

