Ethical Practice
CAPE Activity Quick Reference Guide

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CPD participants are encouraged to regularly review this document and any supplementary documents to ensure they remain informed of current requirements and expectations.

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Purpose

This guide summarises CPD activities that may contribute to the Ethical Practice domain under the RACP CPD Recognition and Assessment Framework. It is designed to help participants quickly identify suitable activities when planning and undertaking their annual CPD requirements.

From 2026, under the CPD Framework, participants must complete a minimum of four CAPE-aligned activities each year.

Using this guide

This Quick Reference Guide highlights CPD activities that contribute to the Ethical Practice domain. Activities are classified as Recognised or Provisionally Recognised based on their alignment with the CAPE Recognition Matrix criteria.

Activity numbers correspond to the numbering used in the CPD Recognised Activity Catalogue.

Numbers may not appear sequential within this guide because each number refers to the same activity identifier used across the full catalogue and CPD governance register.

For full activity descriptions and detailed evidence requirements, refer to the CPD Recognised Activity Catalogue.

Ethical Practice Activity

The CPD Recognised Activity Catalogue contains 50+ activities in total.

Recognised activities inherently involve ethical decision-making or governance responsibilities.

Provisionally Recognised activities contribute where the activity explicitly meets the Ethical Practice criteria in the CAPE Recognition Matrix.

Recognised Ethical Practice Activities

Ethical analysis and decision-making are inherent in the activity design.

Ref #	Activity	CPD category	Evidence (synthesised)
21	Medico-Legal Work (Report Writing / Expert Opinion)	RP	Activity summary + reflection on ethical considerations
22	Research Ethics Committee Participation	RP	Participation record or meeting summary + reflection
32	Incident Report Review (Individual)	MO	Review summary + reflection
33	Incident Review Committee Participation	MO	Participation summary + reflection
35	Participation in Clinical Governance Committees	RP	Participation summary + reflection
39	Participation in Accreditation / Credentialing Activities	RP	Participation summary + reflection
48	Participation in Organisational Quality or Safety Accreditation	RP	Evidence of participation + reflection

Provisionally Recognised Ethical Practice Activities

Recognised where Ethical Practice criteria in the CAPE Recognition Matrix are explicitly met.

Measuring Outcomes (MO)

Ref #	Activity	Recognised if…	Evidence
25	Mortality & Morbidity Meeting	Case review includes ethical analysis of care decisions	Attendance + reflection
44	Review of Patient Care Pathways	Pathway analysis identifies ethical issues affecting care delivery	Review summary + action plan
46	Conducting a Patient Safety Review	Analyses patient safety data, to identify risks, hazards and implement improvements in ethical practice.	Review summary + improvement plan.

Reviewing Performance (RP)

Ref #	Activity	Recognised if…	Evidence
15	Multi-Source Feedback (MSF)	Structured feedback process incorporating perspectives from colleagues, peers, and staff	MSF report + reflection
16	Reflection on Practice	Structured reflective activity to support improvement	Written reflection meets minimum requirements
18	Completing a Professional Performance Self-Assessment	Structured self-assessment tool addressing professional practice standards	Completed assessment + reflection
23	Peer Review Discussion	Case discussion examines ethical dilemmas or professional judgement	Discussion summary + reflection

Educational Activities (EA)

Ref #	Activity	Recognised if…	Evidence
26	Journal Club	Article analysis explores ethical considerations in clinical practice	Article summary + reflection
27	Clinical Guideline Development	Participation in the development, review, or update of clinical guidelines	Contribution summary
28	Teaching / Supervising Trainees	Teaching, supervision activities support development of clinical and professional capability in trainees.	Summary activities + reflection
31	Active Learning Module	Module addresses ethical decision-making, consent, or professional obligations	Completion certificate + reflection
34	Research Presentation / Seminar	Presentation of research findings at a conference, seminar, or internal meeting	Abstract or program listing + reflection
36	Guideline or Policy Review (Contributor)	Reviewing clinical practice guidelines, policies, or organisational frameworks to support safe and effective care.	Role summary + reflection
37	Case-Based Learning	Case discussion explores ethical dilemmas or decision-making frameworks	Case summary + reflection

40	Participation in Research (Design, Data Collection, Analysis)	Research activities including literature review, protocol development, recruitment, data collection, analysis, or reporting.	Role summary + reflection
42	Teaching a Formal Lecture or Educational Session	Teaching addresses ethical frameworks or ethical decision-making	Teaching summary + reflection
45	Literature Review for Clinical or Professional Improvement	Literature explores the implications of ethics in practice	Summary + reflection

Ethical Practice Recognition Checklist

Your activity is more likely to contribute to Ethical Practice where it includes:

- ✓ Ethical decision-making in clinical care
- ✓ Analysis of consent, confidentiality or professional obligations
- ✓ Examination of risk–benefit decisions affecting patient care
- ✓ Application of ethical frameworks to clinical or organisational issues
- ✓ Governance responsibilities involving ethical oversight

General clinical learning does not automatically constitute Ethical Practice without explicit ethical analysis.

Legend

Recognised	Ethical Practice inherent in activity design
Provisionally Recognised	Activity must meet Ethical Practice CAPE Recognition Matrix criteria

Important

This guide provides a quick reference summary only.

Refer to the CPD Recognised Activity Catalogue for:

- Full activity descriptions
- Detailed evidence requirements
- Cross-domain classifications
- CAPE Recognition Key Matrix criteria

Participants remain responsible for ensuring activities are appropriately documented.

CAPE Recognition Key Matrix (extract)

For activities classified as Provisionally Recognised, CAPE contribution is recognised only where the activity explicitly includes one or more of the criteria below.

General or incidental reference to a CAPE theme is not sufficient.

Ethical Practice

Recognised where the activity explicitly includes.

- examines ethical decision-making in clinical, professional, organisational, or research practice
- addresses ethical responsibilities in relation to consent, confidentiality, conflicts of interest, or professional obligations
- applies ethical principles or frameworks to clinical cases, organisational issues, or professional practice
- analyses risk-benefit decisions, uncertainty, or competing obligations in patient care or health service delivery
- evaluates ethical issues arising in governance, policy, quality, safety, or research activities
- requires reflection on ethical judgement, accountability, or responsibility in practice
- develops, applies, or evaluates strategies to improve ethical practice, ethical oversight, or ethical decision-making
- reviews systems, policies, or practices to identify and address ethical risks or concerns

Contact the CPD Program Team

If you have questions about the guide or require further clarification, please contact the RACP CPD Program Team.

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