

Explore More · Provider Autonomy

We've organized some further materials by topic, so you can easily follow up on particular issues or events of interest from this unit.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION

- In [this fabulous radio discussion](#), Alta Charo, a Professor of Law and Bioethics at the University of Wisconsin, and Crispin Sartwell, a Professor of Philosophy at Dickinson College, discuss a provider's right of conscience vs. patient's right to care, covering a range of examples. (National Public Radio. Talk of the Nation: The Right to Refuse. 2008 September 15.)
 - *Virtual Mentor*, the ethics journal of the American Medical Association, has a [recent special issue](#) devoted to conscientious objection. You'll find interesting case studies, as well as articles discussing pros and cons of medical conscientious objection. (2013 March.)
 - You can see what ACOG (the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists) said when they shared their view on conscientious objection in their [ACOG Committee Opinion](#) No. 385, November 2007. (It was recently reaffirmed, in 2013.)
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THE CASE OF THE OBJECTING PHARMACIST

- Read the [March 25, 2008 decision](#) by the Wisconsin Court of Appeals that deals with the case of the pharmacist mentioned by Karen in this unit. (Noesen v. Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing Pharmacy Examining Board, 2008 WIApp 52, 311 Wis. 2d 237, 751 N.W.2d 385.)
 - Was Wisconsin an anomaly? Check out [a list of some other US state conscience clauses](#) which uphold a pharmacist's right to "refuse to fill." (National Conference of State Legislatures. Pharmacist Conscience Clauses: Laws and Information. Denver, CO, 2012 May.)
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ROLE-SPECIFIC OBLIGATIONS

- Philosopher George Annas examines the role of the physician in this [short academic article](#), which raises some issues about role-specific obligations of physicians serving in the military. ("Military Medical Ethics – Physician First, Last, and Always." *New England Journal*

CORPORATE CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION

- Amy Sepinwall's article in the *Washington Post* asks a simple question: [Can a Corporation have a Conscience?](#) (2014 March 21).
 - The Washington Post's Jamie Fuller gives some more context on a specific US case in which the question of corporate conscientious objection arises in [his blog post](#). ("Here's What you Need to Know about the Hobby Lobby Case." *The Washington Post Blog The Fix* 2014 March 24.)
 - On a popular blog dedicated to commentary on the US Supreme Court, Lyle Denniston offers an [Argument preview: Religion, Rights, and the Workplace](#) for two recent cases that examine the issue of corporate conscientious objection (*SCOTUSblog* 2014 March 20). [The consolidated cases are *Sebelius v. Hobby Lobby Stores and Conestoga Wood Specialties Corp. v. Sebelius*.]
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CATHOLIC CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION

- Take a look at the Catholic health services position on material vs. formal cooperation that Karen described in the [Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services](#) issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. (Fifth Edition, 2009 November; 43 pp.)