

**PTA PROGRAM 8th ANNUAL CLINICIAN APPRECIATION DAY**  
SPEAKER BIOS, SESSION DESCRIPTIONS & OBJECTIVES

**Healthcare Ethics and the Physical Therapy Team**

**Julie Taddeo, MA, RT(R)**

Julie Taddeo is the Program Director for Allied Health Science at Harcum College. She earned her degree in radiological technology from Delaware Technical and Community College, her Bachelor of Health Science from Gwynedd-Mercy College and her Master degree in Humanities from Cabrini University. She has served as the Program Director for a Radiological Technology Program, a clinical instructor and is a member of the American Academy of Professional Coders and an American Red Cross Instructor. Ms. Taddeo's graduate studies were focused in health care and ethics, and she is an instructor in medical ethics coursework at Harcum College. She has presented regionally on the topic of Health Care Ethics.

**Course Description:**

This course will provide an overview of health care ethics to the profession of physical therapy. The speaker will focus on the contributions of the early philosophers and the impact that they have on today's healthcare practitioners. A framework for ethical problem-solving that uses the principles of the professional code of ethics will be discussed, providing a guide for practicing physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in identifying potential courses of action when facing an ethical dilemma. The Code of Ethics and Core Values for physical therapists and Standards of Ethical Conduct for Physical Therapist Assistants will be reviewed and used as a basis when discussing ethical situations specific to physical therapy practice.

**Objectives:**

The participant will be able to:

- Describe the evolution of medical ethics from a historical viewpoint.
- Discuss philosophers from ancient history to present and the influence that they have on medical practice today.
- Explain how infectious diseases and pandemics have influenced healthcare and the resultant moral dilemmas that healthcare practitioners may face.
- Discuss the strengths and limitations of the most influential ethical theories, and apply this methodology to clinical case scenarios.
- Examine components of culture including beliefs, morals, and social customs and how these affect the physical therapist clinician's and patient's relationship.
- Analyze the elements of informed consent and how this concept has evolved through the years.