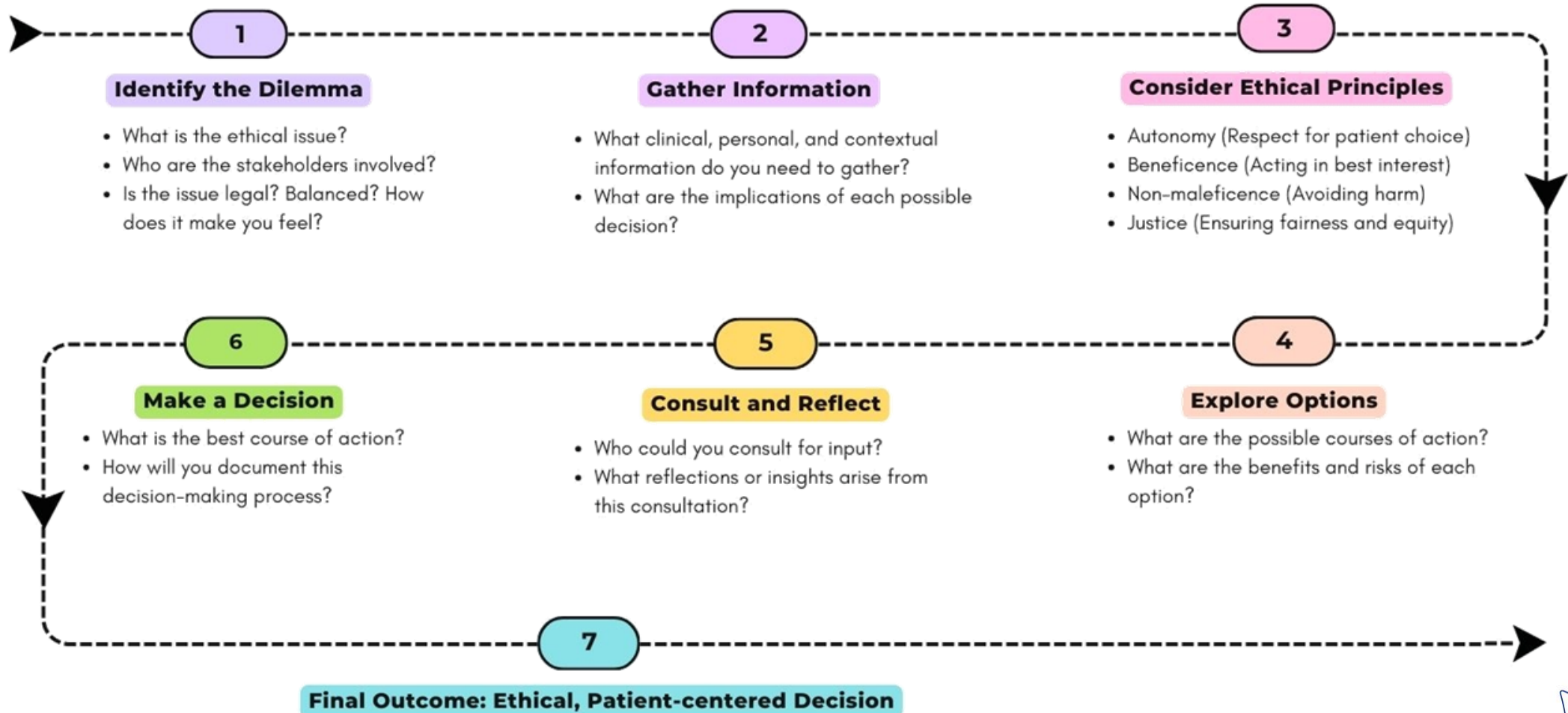


Recognizing and Approaching Ethical Dilemmas in Audiology

Ethical dilemmas often arise in audiology practice, requiring thoughtful decision-making. Use this structured approach to recognize, evaluate, and address dilemmas.



Worksheet: Recognizing and Approaching Ethical Dilemmas in Audiology

Identify the Dilemma

What is the ethical issue at hand? *(Describe the dilemma in your own words.)*

Who are the stakeholders involved? *(Consider the patient, family, audiologist, other healthcare providers, etc.)*

Is the issue legal? Balanced? How does it make you feel? *(Consider your emotional reaction)*

2. Gather Information

What clinical, personal, and contextual information do you need? *(e.g., history, medical records, legal stds)*

What are the implications of each possible decision? *(Short- vs long-term effects of different courses of action.)*

3. Consider Ethical Principles

How do the following ethical principles apply to the dilemma?

- **Autonomy:** *(Respect for patient choices and informed consent)*

- **Beneficence:** *(Acting in the patient's best interest)*

- **Non-maleficence:** *(Avoiding harm to the patient)*

- **Justice:** *(Ensuring fairness and equity in care delivery)*

4. Explore Options

What are the possible courses of action? *(List different options for addressing the dilemma.)*

What are the benefits and risks of each option? *(Evaluate each option's impact on the patient and stakeholders.)*

5. Consult and Reflect

Who could you consult for input? *(Consider colleagues, ethics committees, or professional guidelines.)*

What reflections or insights arise from this consultation? *(How does input shape your view of the dilemma?)*

6. Make a Decision

What is the best course of action? *(Option that aligns with ethical principles, patient care, and professional stds.)*

How will you document this decision-making process? *(How you'll record the decision to ensure transparency.)*

Final Outcome: Ethical, Patient-Centered Decision

By completing this worksheet, you should have a clear understanding of how to approach ethical dilemmas systematically in clinical practice. Reflect on how your decision aligns with the ethical principles and patient-centered care.