Kidney Transplant Dilemma

You will do this in your TEAMS subchannel and record your discussion.

This evening, the Laymen's Review Board of Municipal Hospital meets to consider applicants for kidney transplants. Each of the patients described below has been evaluated by the medical staff, and it has been determined that each patient will most likely die in three to six weeks without a transplant. The best statistical estimates are that only **five donor organs** will be available during that period. The board must establish a priority list of who will get the kidneys by rank-ordering the nine applicants. They are:

A. **Jack Holloway**. Age 42. Married. Two children, a daughter 12 and a son 4. College graduate. Works as an officer in a bank. Wife also employed as a pre-school teacher.

B. **Marisol Villanueva**. Age 38. Unmarried. College graduate; holds a Master's in physical therapy. Employed at the VA hospital 13 years; is head of Physical and Occupational Therapy treatment center.

C. **Paula Sanders**. Age 24. Married, no children. College graduate. Teaches biology and is the cheerleader advisor at a junior high school. Husband is a high school teacher. Medical diagnosis indicates a heart condition that may cause complications in a transplant operation.

D. **Arthur Simpson.** Age 51. Married. Three children, a daughter 19 and two sons 17 and 15. High school graduate. Owner and operator of Simpson Industries, a machine manufacturing business that employs 150. City councilman for ten years; member of the public library board of directors for five years.

E. **Justin Worman.** Age 11. One of seven children of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Worman. Has already received a kidney transplant that failed.

F. **Reed Thunderhawk** Age 23. Cherokee Indian. At least four children by two wives. Fourth-grade education. No occupation.

G. **Greta Aronowitz**. Age 35. Divorced. Three children, a son 7 and twin daughters 6, all in her custody. Employed as a secretary in a real estate office. Receives no child support from her ex-husband, whose whereabouts are unknown.

H. **Jemma Lombardi.** Age 12. IQ 87. Teachers describe her as shy, withdrawn, and inhibited. Family emigrated to New York the year she was born. Family owns a small restaurant where both parents work.

I. **Jose Morales**. Age 32. Married, eight children. Migrant worker. Wife and two oldest children also are employed as migrant workers.

Individual Worksheet

Choose someone to be the note-taker. Then, take turns reading the instructions and the nine biographies of the potential recipients out loud in your group. Write any new words for any of you or any questions you have about the situation below where it says, "New Vocabulary & Points to Clarify with Shari."

New Vocabulary & Points to Clarify with Shari

Main reasons for your decisions:

e.g., We think that X is high risk because… We believe that Y has the best chance of survival because…

Rate all of these potential recipients from 1-9. Then come to a consensus with your group. In this case 1-5 are likely to get the transplant and 6-9 are most likely not to receive one.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.