**Debate of the Ethics of a Healthcare Dilemma Activity**

**Objective**

* 1.02 Apply effective communication.
* 1.04 Apply, analysis and /or evaluate legal and ethical issues in healthcare.

**Materials Needed*:***

* Access to computers for research and word processing
* Printer(s)
* Paper
* Desks/tables
* *Optional - Podium(s)*

**Procedures:**

**Instructions/Preparation**

1. Prior to introduction of activity, teacher will to secure access to computers and printers for research and development of persuasive paper.
2. Student’s task for this activity is to select an ethical dilemma and determine their stance either “FOR” or “AGAINST” that particular topic.
3. The students must research and write a 2 page persuasive paper on the rationale for their stance on the ethical dilemma. Students should use APA format (Times New Roman 12pt. font and 1” margins on all sides). Appropriate citation is required and the paper should be stapled in the upper left corner.
4. After students identify their topic, they will be paired up to compete against one another in a classroom debate.
5. Advise the students to prepare for a 5 minute presentation, followed by a 3 minute rebuttal and 1 minute closing remarks.
6. Inform the students they will be graded on preparation, written work and presentation of subject matter and stance.
7. Allow appropriate instruction time for the research and creation of paper.
8. Schedule dates and times for the debates.
9. Remind the students their debates will be in front of the class and/or others.

***Presentation***

1. Each student will have 5 minutes to present their side of the ethical dilemma.
2. Following the presentations the students will have 2 minutes to prepare for a rebuttal.
3. Each debater will have a chance for a 3 minute rebuttal.
4. The students will have 1 minute to prepare for closing remarks.
5. Each student will make closing remarks lasting no longer than 1 minute.
6. The students should be encouraged to take notes during their opponent’s presentation. This will be crucial when planning their rebuttals.

*Optional – Hold the debates in the auditorium or similar school setting, invite additional students, staff and/or administrators. Audience can help to critique/rate the effectiveness of each debater.*