**4.02 Medical Decisions Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Handout Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:**

You have been assigned to a Medical Decisions Board for a university hospital. Today, your decision involves a very common dilemma: four patients in complete renal failure, all in need of a kidney transplant and there is only one kidney. Your assignment is to determine who gets the available kidney?

All of the following patients are compatible recipients for the kidney to be transplanted. The kidney donor was a 17 year old male who was killed in a car crash. The parents have requested that the kidney be transplanted in a teenager.  
Please answer the following questions:  
1) Who did you choose?  
2) What factors did you consider?  
3) Why did you choose who you did?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name, Age and Occupation** | **Renal Status** | **Other Medical factors** | **Financial Status** | **Social Factors** |
| Mary Greaves **54**  **Housewife** | Dialysis: 15 years  Transplant waiting list: 7 years | Arthritis  Post-menopausal hormone replacement  Hypertension  Overall health – Fair | $46,000/yr  Medicaid | * Has 6 grown kids, all supportive * Husband is reformed alcoholic with stable income and in good health, age 60 |
| Michelle Mantle **35**  **Former tennis pro** | Dialysis: 1 year  Transplant waiting list: 6 months | Multiple sclerosis – 2 years – Mod.  Overall health – Fair | Net worth – 20 million dollars  No insurance | * High profile patient would bring much media attention to the medical center * Potential exists for financial gain for the medical center, publicity for organ donations |
| Phyllis Puckett **19**  **College student** | Dialysis: 2 years  Transplant waiting list: 9 months | Overall health – Good  Regularly uses cocaine, other illegal substances have been present in blood specimens | Parents:  $120,000/yr  Blue Cross/Blue Shield | * Parents are supportive * Patient resists medical regimen as prescribed by physicians |
| Geri Sanchez **43**  **Auto mechanic** | Dialysis: 7 years  Transplant waiting list: 2 years | Overall health – Excellent | $25,000/yr  Managed care – will cover 50% of costs | * Has 16 year old son in school who lives in the home * Wife died of Leukemia in 1995 |