

# Lesson 3 Assignments

## Assignment 3.1

For the following statements, which would be considered primarily a legal issue, and which would be considered primarily an ethical issue? Select Legal or Ethical for each option and why?

1. A nurse determines that a patient is near death and removes the patient's breathing tube.
2. A physician bills Medicare for a specialized procedure that was not performed.
3. A physician is offered two tickets to a baseball game for agreeing to meet with a pharmaceutical representative who is selling a new medication.

## Assignment 3.2

In which of the following situations would the medical ethics committee be likely to play a role? Select Yes or No for each option and why?

1. A staff member has contracted tuberculosis from an infected patient, and measures must be taken to prevent further infection.
2. Doctors and nurses in the intensive care unit have recently had to deal with multiple cases of severe stroke in which patients are not likely to recover. The staff is concerned about how to help families make decisions about the patients.
3. A new drug treatment program is now being offered by the hospital that will enable more patients to survive a particular cancer. The treatment is very expensive, however.
4. Two siblings are unable to reach a decision about ending life support for their widowed father who fell and suffered a brain injury that has left him in a coma.



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