Ethics Work-Up

**Step 1:** Identify relevant facts of the case and any additional information you want to know.

**Step 2:** Identify the available alternative courses of action.

**Step 3:** Assess each available alternative from the perspective of the relevant ethical appeals.

a. Appeal to established legal, ethical, and professional standards.
b. Appeal to consequences.
c. Appeal to rights.
d. Appeal to virtues.
e. Appeal to other ethical considerations (where applicable).
   - Justice (e.g., social justice and resource allocation).
   - Special obligations in the professional role (e.g., physician advocacy and patient interests) and in the role of surrogate decision-maker (e.g., substituted judgment).
   - Legitimate self-interests and personal commitments/obligations.
   - General moral constraints.

**Step 4:** Provide an argument and a justified management plan for one of the alternative courses of action.

- State clear reasons based on assessment of the appeals for assigning priority to one course of action rather than another.
- State a clear critique of these reasons and respond to the critique.
- Provide a detailed management plan for implementing the course of action that you chose that includes several steps and back-up plans.

**Step 5:** Identify steps that might have been taken to prevent the ethical challenge(s) that arose in this case.