



## **A Rational End-of-Life Health Care Policy**

### **Student Handout 4**

#### **Overview:**

Health care costs as a part of GDP have more than tripled in the past 50 years. Some feel this is only a result of improved health and people living quality lives longer. Others feel the looming Medicare deficit will wreak havoc on the future of health care in America if something isn't done to reduce costs. You have been assigned to serve on a task force to develop a rational end-of-life health care policy. Your policy should address the following questions:

- Do you believe health care should be rationed in any way? Explain your reasoning.
- What segments of society would receive rationed or no care, (if any).
- How will your policy reduce end-of-life costs?
- How will you justify your plan to the segment of society most affected?
- What financial responsibility will businesses have? What financial responsibility will individuals have? What financial responsibility will the government have?
- Other thoughts, insights, or ideas: