

# Heart transplant candidate essay sample



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

The purpose of this memorandum is to come to a conclusion about which individual should receive the heart transplant taking into account ethics.

There are three people who are in need of the organ transplant; Jerry, Lisa, and Ozzy. In order to make an informed decision it is important to look at all three cases. Candidate #1-

Jerry is a 55 year old male with three children. In his early 20's Jerry used steroids which in turn damaged his heart. His life expectancy would increase by about 10-15 years with this transplant. Candidate #2-

Lisa is a 12 year old female. Her heart was damaged when she contracted pneumonia a year ago. Lisa has had health problems all her life due to a lupus-like immune deficiency. Even with the transplant, it is unlikely that Lisa will live through her 20's. Candidate #3-

Ozzy is a 38 year old male who has a history of drug abuse. As a result of Ozzy's drug use, he will not be able to live past the month. With the transplant Ozzy has the life expectancy of 10+ years.

### The Rights Theory

The Rights Theory state that an action is ethical is it respects the rights that all individuals have. Taking this theory into account, I do not think it is ethical to accept the 2 million dollars which are being offered to the hospital in exchange for Lisa to receive the transplant. All three of the candidates should have the same opportunities and the money is clouding the issue at hand. The hospital will not be accepting donations at this time, or in the future, for organ transplants. Utilitarianism

Utilitarianism states that rightness or wrongness of one's actions is determined by their consequences. Using the utilitarian point of view, the heart should go to Lisa. She is the youngest of all three candidates and also has the potential for a life of greatness. Lisa is also the only candidate whose actions did not cause her heart failure. In the case of both Jerry and Ozzy there was drug abuse which caused their heart conditions. Decision

After researching the utilitarian ethics and looking at the Rights Theory I have come to the conclusion that the heart will be granted to Lisa. The hospital is gracious for the generosity of Lisa's mother and father, but we will not be accepting the monetary donation from Dr. Doe. The hospital does not want to be scrutinized for accepting money that could be perceived as a bribe, nor do we want promote the message that it is acceptable for people to buy these organs. Lisa is a young girl with potential and as modern medicine continues to advance, she has the opportunity to be a help her society later on in her life.