Bioethical Issues

Bioethics Lesson 4b Day 2

1. **Transmission**- Maria recently got back from an international business trip. She has not been feeling well and went into the Doctor’s Office to get checked out. Apparently the Doctor has determined that she may have Zika based on the symptoms she is presenting. If this is true how should Maria be treated? What measures should be taken? What are possible controversies or viewpoints? What is the ethical thing to do?
2. **Preventative Measures** such as restricting travel of young disadvantaged females or females of birthing years. Zephany is 24 years old and wants to travel to an area of the world that has reported out several Zika cases. She comes from a disadvantaged background where she doesn’t have readily available health care available or access to methods to protect her health. What could be some possible backlash or resistance to this? What are the possible viewpoints and why might some people be for this? What is the ethical thing to do?
3. **Government Intervention-** Lucea has a newborn baby and doesn’t believe in vaccinations. What might be some possible backlash or resistance in the event that the government is able to take a role in medical decision making and require certain vaccines? Should the government in certain cases be able to take a role in medical decision making that would affect individual’s lives to prevent an outbreak? What are possible viewpoints to this issue? What is the ethical thing to do in this situation?
4. **Pharmaceutical companies using the art of persuasion to persuade** patients to buy into their vaccinations based off of an individual’s fears. Playing on an individual’s fears. Rayna is scared to death that her newborn is being subjected to all kinds of germs. She happens to see a pharmaceutical company advertise the benefits of getting a vaccination the company developed to protect a little one. After seeing this advertisement, Rayna feels the urgency to call the doctor and schedule an appointment for her little one. She doesn’t feel comfortable leaving the house until the little one is vaccinated. To what extent could Pharmaceutical companies be playing on an individual’s fears? Are they acting ethically? Why or why not? What are possible viewpoints on this issue?
5. **Animal testing-**Laramie, a brilliant research scientist, is confident that he is on the right track to finding the cure for a deadly virus. In order to further his research, he will have to perform tests on apes. The apes will live in the laboratory and receive chemical treatments that will give them the deadly virus. Half the apes will receive no treatment, and the other half will get the experimental treatment. At different stages of the experiment, Laramie will need to perform an autopsy to see check the progress of the virus. This type of examination would kill the animal but this is the only type of research method available to get closer to a cure. What is the ethical thing to do?