Ethics

 the humanitarian side of health care and the possible outcomes from insuring all Americans. This week's ethical approach will address the level of responsibility and accountability through an ethical lens referring to what you will see in the readings between "everything possible" vs "everything reasonable".

Lebow states in Chapter 7, “There is no monolithic “religious ethic” on the uninsured,” however, we often hear of opposition to concepts of universal coverage and have transitioned to a mantra of “personal responsibility.” How has ethics played a role in how we perceive and work to achieve outcomes that will benefit the greater good; more commonly known as Utilitarianism?

In this week’s readings, we talk more about charity care, free clinics, and an example of a patient whom some may consider is over-treated, and we knowingly are causing harm. How do we balance the need, want, and desire to assist those less fortunate (uninsured and/or underinsured) with the increasing costs we, the consumers, continue to face? In How We Do Harm, Chapter 11, does the patient receive “reasonable treatment” or “everything reasonable”? Please explain your thoughts.