



**This is a graded discussion: 4 points possible**

**due Mar 31**

## Ethics Debate - Lab 16

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### Case Study:

ACME is a company which manufactures a medicine called Evercil. Evercil is used to treat Congestive Heart Failure (a terminal illness that is a horrible way to die) and is one of the most effective and powerful drugs on the market. Evercil is a miracle drug for patients suffering from CHF. They can get out of bed, even play with their grandchildren. They feel like they can breathe again! Patients and their doctors LOVE Evercil. The CEO of the company, Ms. Knowsalot, has just gotten a report from her medical researchers that says that Evercil shortens patients' lives by 2-3 months. They live a lot better lives BUT they live a shorter amount of time.

Ms. Knowsalot has to decide what to do with the report. She could delay the announcement of the results of the report and do more research, or she could immediately announce to doctors, patients, and the FDA the report results. If Evercil goes off the market patients will go back to living horrible lives and be unable to do anything but wait to die. Also, Ms. Knowsalot believes that ACME will have to fire over 1,000 people if Evercil goes off the market.

Should Ms. Knowsalot tell the truth about Evercil? Not communicating about something or communicating that Evercil is safe would be untrue (perhaps a lie) but save jobs and give patients a better quality of life.

To tell the truth means that people at ACME will lose their jobs (their careers). Patients may live longer, though.

In the discussion thread

1. Identify the principle based ethic most applicable to the scenario and explain why.

2. Identify the ethical theory from lecture or the textbook that can be applied and explain why and how to apply the ethical theory.
3. Argue both a Pro and Con argument based on the ethical theory you choose.



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