

**HIM 520 Module Four Case Study Guidelines and Rubric**

**Overview:** As a health information management professional, you are faced with many different and difficult cases that require you to make decisions affecting your workplace and patient care. It is imperative you completely understand the laws, policies, and procedures so you can adhere to those regulations when faced with these decisions.

**Case Study:** Jon is a 42-year-old male who survived a devastating car accident when he was 25 years old. He lives in a skilled nursing facility where he receives full assistance with activities of daily living (ADL). He is in a “semi-vegetative” state, as documented by one physician. He has no skilled care needs.

Jon’s mother was appointed his legal guardian in 1996, one year after his accident. He has three sisters and one brother. For 17 years, Jon’s mother visited the facility at least twice daily to feed her son. He would eat all his food and did not have problems chewing or swallowing. Jon was a healthy looking adult male and he had been medically stable for many years.

Six weeks ago, Jon’s mother died of a heart attack. Since then, Jon has deteriorated; he will not take food or drink when offered it by the certified nursing assistants (CNAs). He lost 20 pounds and was sent to the hospital, where he was treated with antibiotics for a diagnosis of pneumonia. After successful treatment of the pneumonia and hydration with IV fluids, Jon was sent back to the nursing facility but did not resume eating or drinking except for intermittent small bites.

The resident’s attending physician approached the siblings about sending Jon back to the hospital for placement of a gastrostomy tube (a tube surgically inserted into the stomach) to allow for nourishment. Two siblings wish to consent to the surgical procedure. The other two siblings are in agreement that they do not want a feeding tube intervention. They want to allow their brother “to go” and are advocating keeping him at the nursing facility to die.

The resident has no advance directives. The facility administrator advises you that one of the siblings is threatening to obtain a court order prohibiting the surgical insertion of a gastrostomy (feeding) tube. What actions will you take?

After reading the case study, respond to the following:

- Who has the legal right to make decisions on behalf of a patient? Is this an end-of-life decision based on your state law?
- What is healthcare power of attorney? How does it apply to the patient?
- How do ethical principles apply to your reasoning?
- What policies and procedures would you implement in your hospital administration and information tracking to ensure that the number of incidences like this is minimized in the future?

This assignment will help you understand legal issues and policies and procedures in healthcare, which you can incorporate into your final project.

**Guidelines for Submission:** Your paper should be submitted as a 1- to 2-page Microsoft Word document in APA format with double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, and one-inch margins.

<b>Critical Elements</b>	<b>Proficient (100%)</b>	<b>Needs Improvement (70%)</b>	<b>Not Evident (0%)</b>	<b>Value</b>
<b>End-of-Life Care Laws</b>	Comprehensively describes the legal rights to make decisions and end-of-life care laws for own state	Describes the legal rights to make decisions and end-of-life care laws for own state but with gaps in detail, clarity, or accuracy	Does not describe the legal rights to make decisions and end-of-life care laws for own state	20
<b>Healthcare Power of Attorney</b>	Specifically describes and explains healthcare power of attorney and how it applies to the patient	Describes and explains healthcare power of attorney and how it applies to the patient but has gaps in understanding and application	Does not describe or explain healthcare power of attorney	20
<b>Ethical Principles</b>	Comprehensively explains the ethical principles and policies that apply to the healthcare industry and patient care	Explains the ethical principles and policies that apply to the healthcare industry and patient care but has gaps in application and understanding	Does not explain the ethical principles and policies that apply to the healthcare industry and patient care	20
<b>HIM Policies and Procedures</b>	Comprehensively applies HIM policies and procedures to the healthcare industry and patient care	Applies HIM policies and procedures to the healthcare industry and patient care but has gaps in knowledge and application	Does not apply HIM policies and procedures to the healthcare industry and patient care	30
<b>Writing / Mechanics</b>	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization	Submission has some major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that prevent understanding of ideas	10
<b>Total</b>				<b>100%</b>