Ethical Dilemmas

Name

Institution

Date

**Novick and Morrow’s case study 6.3 on public health administration**

The Public health administration covers describing, analyzing, and making of decisions touching on ethical bottlenecks. This trend of looking into health ethics has gained popularity in the recent practice of public health since the levels of interaction among stakeholders, communities, public and safeguarding of the welfare of the public has also grown. In the current case study, there are two presentations in the vaccination of HPV for girls selected from certain age groups (Shi & Johnson, 2014). The alternatives presented come with ethical questions such as is the vaccine given free of choice or willingly? Holding the benefits of the vaccine constant, are there driving forces which may appear to make it compulsory for every of those girls to get the vaccine? Alternatively, there was a targeted high risk group posing a different dimension of stigmatization of the groups targeted.

Based on the guiding principles of Ethical Practice of Public health and skills for ethical practice in public health, the selection of the basic reasonable ethical practices for the case study must consider aspects of the society such as their ethics, culture, beliefs and understanding of the risk of cervical cancer. The community needs to further understand the purpose served by the vaccine and why they witness the low numbers of vaccination against the same. (Brock, 2019). The responsible authority must also play the role of achieving public health in honorable and respectful methods to all members of the society. Thus, public health practitioners must do civic education to communities on the decision and the policies they want to implement and at last get consent for the implementation. The civic education must come along with a guideline that reflects the values, culture, beliefs, and the general way of life of the targeted population which should inspire confidence on matters confidentiality and safety. The bottom line is to bring in all stakeholders into cooperating to boost efficiency and trust among the targeted populations.

From a public health official’s point of view, my first assignment would be the identification of the root cause of the high positivity rates of cervical cancer around the community. Further, I would go into knowing why there low cases of people participating in the vaccination regardless of the slow roll out of the HPV vaccination. Probably, some cultures may have long held myths about vaccination leading to the low numbers in the uptake of the vaccine. From the findings, I would then develop a policy that takes into account all the findings including respect for the culture in the society. The policy would be purely educational, giving them room to join and leave the program. Involving them in the implementation, and then building trust around their way of living and culture. The implications of rolling out this programme would only be that the costs of ensuring its continuity would run very high since it would involve use of resources. Further, there are foreseen rejections from the community with a majority likely to see the program as a method of hoodwinking them into accepting to participate in a government program through small incentives like trainings.

From the perspective of a public health administrator, rolling out a program that educates people on the importance of vaccines to their health and how the same is supposed to work for generations to work would in no way conflict with my personal point of view on ethics. Infact, this would be a major achievement since the responsibility of educating, evaluating and administering of these procedures after obtaining consent lies entirely within my jurisdiction.

**References**

Brock, D. W. (2019). Ethical issues in recipient selection for organ transplantation. In Organ substitution technology (pp. 86-99). Routledge.

Shi, L., & Johnson, J. A. (2014). Novick and Morrow’s public health administration: Principles for population-based management (3rd ed.). Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning.