Tell students that they will now consider the question, What responsibilities do individuals have to their community regarding vaccination and medical care?

Ask students, “Mary chooses not to be vaccinated against measles because it is inconvenient, and then she gets the disease. Who should be financially responsible for her medical care? Why?”

- Some students will say Mary, since it is her “fault” that she got the disease.
- Some students will say the community because everyone has a right to medical care or because compassion and charity require the community to respond to those in need.
- Students may come up with other answers.

Ask students, “Andre gets the measles vaccine, and then gets the disease anyway. Who should be financially responsible for his medical care? Why?”

- Some students will say Andre should be responsible because he accepted the risk of getting the disease when he agreed to get the vaccine.
- Other students will say the community because it is not Andre’s fault that he got the disease.
- Some students might say that Andre suffered a burden for the sake of the community, and so the community should now suffer a (financial) burden for the sake of Andre. They may also say that everyone has a right to medical care or compassion, and charity requires the community to respond to those in need.
- Students may come up with other answers.

Ask students, “Ingrid gets the measles vaccine, and then suffers harms from the vaccine. Who should be financially responsible for Ingrid’s medical care? Why?”

- Students will probably offer reasons similar to those above.

Ask students, “Gopal wants to get the measles vaccine, but he will have a hard time affording it. Who should be financially responsible for paying for this vaccine? Why?”

- Some students will say the individual, since the individual is likely to benefit from the vaccine.
- Some students will say the community for reasons similar to those above.