Case Study for Discussion

Ethical dilemma for students:

We image a lot of trauma patients at Mostly Mercy Hospital and while we are trying to take our images lab, IV therapy, and nurses are also in there trying to do their thing. When I take my x-ray I inform them loudly that they need to get shielded. Their response is, “Oh, I’ve had my kids, just shoot.” It is a problem. Do we take our films having given them their opportunity to protect themselves, or, being the education-oriented individuals that we are, refuse to treat the trauma patient until the workers are properly shielded? I would appreciate some response to this one. Sometimes I’m quite sure that the right thing to do is wait, but the patient is critical?

Discuss in small groups.

What should this person do?

What are the legal and ethical considerations?