

## PRE-ACTIVITY 2A



# THE *Hernandez* FAMILY TREE



### **SCENARIO I:** (Use 1997 as the current year.)

#### **JUAN**

Juan Hernandez, age 12, is the eldest child of Gloria and Mario Hernandez. Gloria, age 33, enjoys good health. Mario, age 36, though he feels well, tends to have elevated blood pressure readings.

#### **GLORIA**

Gloria's mother, Blanca Ruiz Ramos, age 57, was diagnosed with diabetes mellitus at age 48. She has been successfully controlling the disorder with daily insulin injections, attention to diet, and a regular walking exercise program.

Gloria's older sister, Blasa, age 39, has been in good health, but has recently become concerned about dizzy spells, an increase in weight and feeling "thirsty" all of the time. Blanca encouraged her daughter to see the doctor soon.

Gloria's father, Benjamin Ramos age 60, remains healthy with an active lifestyle. He also ensures that his wife keeps up with her exercise and walking routine.

Ben Ramos's mother, Stephanie Clark Ramos, died when he was only two years old. A rare form of cancer claimed her life when she was only 22. His father, Edward Ramos, 84, did not remarry until he was 38 years old — many years after Stephanie's death.

Blanca's parents, Robert and Lupita Ruiz are both 75, born only a few days apart. However, Robert suffers ill health, and must cope with many problems associated with his diabetes. Nowadays, he sees poorly and has difficulty reading his insulin bottles and the scale on his syringes. He has lost sensation in his fingers and toes and finds it nearly impossible to give himself his insulin injections. The arthritis in his knees causes him some pain. He has recently begun dialysis treatments, as his kidneys no longer function.

On the other hand, Lupita has reached age 75 with no illnesses or disabilities. In fact, she remains active in her church and does volunteer work twice a week. She is doing the best she can to help Robert with his injections.

## MARIO

Mario Hernandez is the youngest son of Ruben and Grace Hernandez. Mario's father died at the age of 53 from a heart attack. Grace Hernandez, age 59, has lived alone since the death of her husband 6 years ago, and remains in reasonably good health.

Grace visits her mother, Martha Rubio Vasquez, age 71, on weekends. Martha has had three toes amputated from one foot as a result of complications due to diabetes. She also has severe arthritis but manages to get around with her walker. She enjoys Grace's visits.

Grace's dad, Michael Vasquez, 77, still maintains a fairly active lifestyle and hopes that Grace will marry again. He says she has a lot of good years left — why not spend them with someone?

Ruben's parents, Jesse Hernandez and Jossina Gonzalez Hernandez, both died in an auto accident. Jesse was 61; Jossina was 62. Had they survived the accident, Jesse would now be 80 and Jossina would be 81.

**IN THIS SCENARIO THERE ARE CLUES TO A POTENTIAL HEALTH PROBLEM FOR JUAN. COMPLETE THE FAMILY TREE, THEN EXAMINE YOUR FINDINGS.**



**WHICH DISORDER IS LIKELY TO BE ONE OF GREATEST CONCERN TO JUAN AS HE AGES?**



**HOW DID YOU ARRIVE AT THIS CONCLUSION?**



**WHICH OF JUAN'S RELATIVES IS IN A CAREGIVER ROLE FOR AN AILING FAMILY MEMBER?**