


# RESEARCH ETHICS

NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS FROM AROUND THE WORLD  
CURATED BY CENTRES

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## NEWS



**Scientists say the rush to do COVID research led to a whole lot of waste** - Joanne Silberner // NPR  
*Wasted research from copious numbers of clinical trials with questionable methodology, can result in harms – financial, physiological, and moral.*

**The ethical issues around human-monkey chimeras** - Megan Munsie and Julian Koplin // The Straits Times  
*Despite substantial ethics oversight, human-animal chimera research may entail serious moral dilemmas for the future.*

**Get your coronavirus test, join the party: Experimental mass events in the Netherlands draw fire** - Jop de Vrieze // Science  
*Fieldlab experiments to assess viability of conducting mass events under heavy criticism for increasing risk of exposure, lack of transparency or peer review, and other failures in adhering to ethical standards and guidelines.*

**They Have Alzheimer's. This Clinical Trial May Be a Last Hope.** - Gina Kolata // The New York Times  
*Difficulties in finding participants hinder Alzheimer's clinical trials despite the urgent need for treatments.*

**NIH Reverses Limits on Human Fetal Tissue Research** - Nidhi Subbaraman // Nature  
*US: Ban on research involving fetal tissue from elective abortions lifted, in a move against anti-abortionist politics.*

## PUBLICATIONS

**Developing a competency framework for health research ethics education and training** - Sean Tackett, Jeremy Sugarman, Jenn Ng, et al. // Journal of Medical Ethics  
*An exposition on the evolution of formal health research ethics (HRE) training programmes, and the need to define expected outcomes through proposed competency frameworks.*


**Recommendations for the development of Egyptian human biobanking ethical guidelines** - Ahmed Samir Abdelhafiz, Calvin W. L. Ho, Teck Chuan Voo // Wellcome Open Research  
*The authors present a national ethics framework for biobanking in Egypt, based on themes drawn from international standards, guidelines and best practices.*

**Ethical concerns in suicide research: thematic analysis of the views of human research ethics committees in Australia** - Emma Barnard, Georgia Dempster, Karolina Kryszynska, et al. // BMC Medical Ethics  
*An analysis of ethics committee members' perspectives when dealing with suicide-related study applications reveals increased reliance on ethical guidelines and dialogue with researchers.*

**Expediting telehealth use in clinical research studies: recommendations for overcoming barriers in North America** - Anna Naito, Anne-Marie Wills, Thomas F. Tropea, et al. // npj Parkinson's Disease  
*A consensus statement stressing on the need for standardisation and governance in use of telehealth practices in clinical research, and recommendations on navigating barriers involved.*

**Rethinking consent processes for research in emergency departments** - Joseph Miller, Stephen Guy, Costa David, et al. // Emergency Medicine Australasia  
*Creative techniques to address ethical challenges in data collection through emergency medicine such as excessive consent processes, conflicts between treatment and research, etc.*

## BLOGS



**The ethical imperative to protect collaborative global health research** - Katharine Wright // Nuffield Council Blog  
*A call for more collaborative global health research exemplifying ethical concerns with power, influence and need, above and beyond traditional questions such as study designs and consent.*

**Challenge studies for COVID-19: Now is not the time** - Françoise Baylis and Landon J Getz // Journal of Medical Ethics Blog  
*The post that started an interesting back and forth on the harms and benefits of human challenge studies where healthy volunteers are deliberately infected with COVID-19.*

- **COVID-19 human challenge volunteers are neither doing too little, nor helping too late** - Abie Rohrig and David Manheim // Journal of Medical Ethics Blog  
*Despite the risks identified, the authors defend both the large social value of these studies and the agency of young volunteers.*
- **Challenge studies for COVID-19: Now is still not the time** - Françoise Baylis and Landon J Getz // Journal of Medical Ethics Blog  
*In rebuttal, the authors contest Rohrig and Manheim's arguments in favour of challenge studies, on the perceived benefits, volunteer motivations and the nature of risks involved.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Bioethics Advisory Committee's 20th Anniversary Virtual Public Conference**  
17 & 18 Jun 2021

**Singapore Research Ethics Conference: Navigating Ethical and Regulatory Challenges in the New Era for Human Subject Research**  
23 - 25 Nov 2021

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