Research Ethics

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Respect for Human Subjects

- Protecting confidentiality
- 2) Permitting withdrawal
- Providing new information
- 4) Monitoring welfare
- 5) Informing them of what was learned from the research

Fair Subject Selection

- The scientific objectives of the study—not vulnerability or privilege—should guide inclusion criteria and targeted populations.
- Convenient groups should not be selected. Groups cannot be excluded without scientific reasons.
 However, higher risk is a reason to exclude certain groups.

Scientific Validity

- Research must be conducted in a methodologically rigorous manner that is practically feasible.
- To be ethical the research must produce reliable and valid data that can be interpreted.

Favorable Risk-Benefit Ratio

1) Risks identified, assessed and minimized.

Include

Physical risks

Psychological risks

Social risks

Economic risks

Favorable Risk-Benefit Ratio

2) Potential benefits to individual participants enhanced.

Favorable Risk-Benefit Ratio

- 3) If potential benefits to the individual outweigh risks to the individual then proceed.
- 4) If risks outweigh benefits to the individual, then evaluate risks against social benefit of knowledge gained.

Informed Consent

- 1) Purpose and duration of participation
- 2) Risks
- 3) Alternatives
- 4) Benefits
- 5) Confidentiality of records
- 6) Compensation for injuries
- 7) Person to contact for answers to questions
- 8) Voluntariness and right to withdraw

Informed Consent

• Informed consent ensures individuals decide whether they enroll in research and whether research fits with their own values, interests, and goals.

Informed Consent

- Disclosure of information to the subject
- Understanding by the subject
- Voluntariness of the decision