

# RESEARCH ETHICS

NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS FROM AROUND THE WORLD  
CURATED BY CENTRES

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## NEWS

**Ethics of making human blastocysts in a lab** - Caroline Zielinski // Cosmos

*Recent advances in early human development through blastocysts raise possibilities of human cloning, and intensify ethical debates surrounding these human embryos.*

**WHO Chief: Waive Covid vaccine patents to put world on 'war footing'** - Sarah Boseley // The Guardian

*Support for patent waivers can help increase vaccine production and distribution to low- and middle-income countries, without necessarily stifling innovation and research.*

**Covid trial infecting healthy volunteers needs full transparency, say campaigners** - Natalie Grover // The Guardian

*Similar campaigns resulted in getting 4 other vaccine makers to release the full protocols last year.*

- **Publish the protocol for the UK SARS-CoV-2 human challenge study now** - Josh Morrison and Charles Weijer // The BMJ Opinion

*Full transparency by publishing the complete clinical trial protocol for the UK human challenge study beforehand, is essential to fostering public trust.*

**The fight against fake-paper factories that churn out sham science** - Holly Else and Richard Van Noorden // Nature

*The problem of paper mills mass producing falsified research requires a dedicated effort to be stamped out.*

## PUBLICATIONS

**Perceptions of 'Precision' and 'Personalised' Medicine in Singapore and Associated Ethical Issues** - Serene Ong, Jeffrey Ling, Angela Ballantyne, et al. // Asian Bioethics Review

*This qualitative study explores through focus groups, how Singaporeans interpret and understand 'precision medicine' and 'personalised medicine', and uses visual aids to perceive preferences for that term which more accurately communicates the goals of precision medicine research.*

**Systematic review: bioethical implications for COVID-19 research in low prevalence countries, a distinctly different set of problems** - Tony Skapetis, Constance Law and Rohan Rodricks // BMC Medical Ethics

*A systematic review of original literature discussing ethical issues pertaining to research in countries with low COVID-19 prevalence.*

**Digital tools in the informed consent process: a systematic review** - Francesco Gesualdo, Margherita Daverio, Laura Palazzani, et al. // BMC Medical Ethics

*A systematic review of original studies focused on using digital informed consent tools for clinical research or interventions, to evaluate their impacts patients' autonomy.*

**Human Infection Challenge Experiments: Then and Now** - Franklin G. Miller and Jonathan D. Moreno // Ethics and Human Research

*This essay presents a brief history of infection challenge experiments and reflects on the Nuremburg Code to comprehend the ethics of conducting such research.*

**Triaging ethical issues in the coronavirus pandemic: how to prioritize bioethics research during public health emergencies** - David Shaw // Bioethics

*Which ethical issues should bioethics researchers prioritise during this pandemic, and how?*

**Justice, diversity, and research ethics review** - David H. Strauss, Sarah A. White and Barbara E. Bierer // Science

*The role of IRBs and RECs in promoting diversity in clinical research, and suggestions on how this can be facilitated.*

## BLOGS

**The ethics of consent within social media research and AI: Exploitation of vulnerable?** - S. Dayal C. Pathberiya and Amali U. Lokumage // The BMJ Opinion

*AI based, unconsented social media research can be viewed as both exploitative of vulnerable participants, as well as inhibitive of support networks.*

**Ethics, iBlastoids, and brain organoids: Time to revise antiquated laws and processes** - Julian Savulescu // Journal of Medical Ethics

*The author calls for the facilitation of unproblematic embryonic research, and that laws be updated accordingly.*

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