

Unit 3: Research Ethics

US275 Scientific Ethics
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Ethical human research

- The best way to learn about human beings
 - is to study human beings
- When it is not possible to study humans
 - then we study animals



History of Human Subject Research

- Provide an historical example for the need for guidelines on the use of human subjects in biomedical research.
- Describe the ethical issues associated with the Tuskegee Study.



Assignment

14. Bad Blood

Watch *The Deadly Deception: The Tuskegee Study* (1-hour video recording). NOVA/WGBH-TV Films for the Humanities and Sciences; 1993.

In your discussion group:

Identify the ethical philosophies (utilitarianism, virtue theory, egoism, etc) that different individuals used throughout this story. Were the ethical philosophies applied correctly, and if not, what was incorrect? Assuming that everyone involved in this study was acting with good intentions, what can be done when an individual following the principles of one ethical system is in conflict with the ethical principles of other people.

Current Human Subject Regulations

- Describe the historical development of guidelines on the use of human subjects in the United States.
- Identify and explain the three basic ethical principles established in the Belmont Report.
- Describe the importance and process of informed consent.



15. Is the Common Rule enough?

Is the Common Rule Enough?

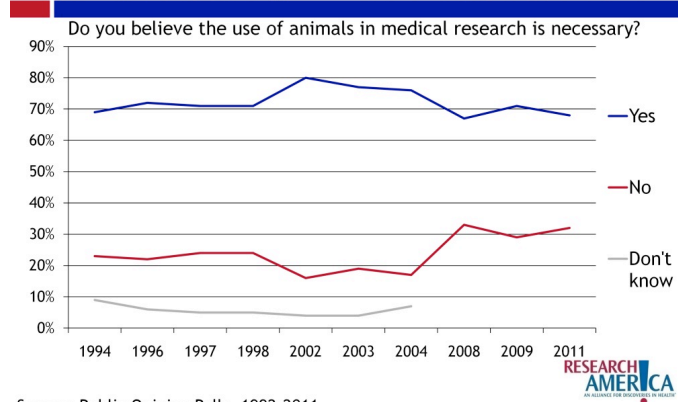
In your small discussion group:
Discuss whether the presence of the ethical guidelines put forth in the Belmont Report and implemented into the Common Rule are necessary and/or sufficient to ensure the safety of human research subjects.



History of Animal Research

- Describe the guiding principles of responsible animal research (The 3R's).
- Compare and contrast the “animal welfare” and “animal rights” arguments.

Americans Believe Using Animals is Necessary in Medical Research



<http://speakingofresearch.com/tag/medical-research/>



16. Animal Welfare and Animal Rights

In your discussion group:

Discuss the philosophical perspectives involved in comparing and contrasting the “animal welfare” and “animal rights” positions.



Animal Use Laws and Regulations

- Briefly describe the federal laws and guidelines for the responsible use of animals in research.
- Describe the procedure for gaining approval to conduct animal research at a college or university.



Assignment

17. Humane care of laboratory animals.

The United States government has established a series of laws, enforcement agencies, and review of animal research before, during, and after providing funds for the projects. However, just as violent activists affect the public's perception of peaceful animal welfare protestors, rare examples of unethical animal research damage the reputation of the majority of responsible animal scientists.

In your discussion group:

Discuss whether or not the policies, inspections, review, and enforcement procedures currently in place are sufficient to maintain humane care and use of animals in research.

Any Questions?

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<http://www.vipitbullkennels.com/images/animated-question-mark.gif>