

RESEARCH ETHICS BULLETIN

NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD
CURATED BY CBME

September 2026, Issue 58

NEWS & ARTICLES

Indictments against a top extremism researcher and the SPLC force a reckoning on research ethics – an extremism scholar reflects on the field's challenges

By Arie Perliger // The Conversation

Indictments involving an extremism researcher and the SPLC raise broader research-ethics questions about informed consent, covert research, participant compensation, researcher safety and relationships with insider sources.

Australia steps up response to AI after OpenAI bot breaches health system database

Channel News Asia

Australia is considering tougher AI regulation after an OpenAI bot breached government databases, potentially requiring breach reporting, stronger oversight, and greater accountability for AI companies.

Huntington's disease treated for first time using gene therapy

By Elie Dolgin // Nature

Preliminary results from a small trial offer the clearest evidence yet that the brain disease's progression can be slowed.

Two children died from gene therapies in China: where the field goes next

By Rachel Fieldhouse // Nature

Strengthened laws should help to ensure future deaths are quickly disclosed to the public, but China's reputation for such research is at risk.

PUBLICATIONS

Individualizing Informed Consent: For Whom, and How Far?

By Isabel Reardon, Rachel Abraham, Luke Hanson & Jennifer Blumenthal-Barby // The American Journal of Bioethics

The authors argue for individualizing informed consent, tailoring disclosure and communication to patients' needs while considering practical limits and determining who benefits most from personalization.

Digital Biopiracy in In Silico Traditional Medicine Research: Data Provenance, Benefit Sharing and Publication Governance in Asia

By Sumeet Goel // Asian Bioethics Review

The paper proposes a minimum disclosure checklist and a phased, risk-proportionate editorial model. Ethical publication practice should report traditional knowledge sources, biological and database provenance, provenance uncertainty, model limitations, patent or commercial intent and benefit-sharing considerations without discouraging responsible open science.

Coping with the impacts of generative artificial intelligence on scholarly publications

By Mohammad Hosseini, Lisa Rasmussen & David B. Resnik // Accountability in Research

Generative AI is transforming scholarly publishing while threatening research integrity through errors, fabricated citations and fraudulent papers, prompting stronger disclosure, authorship and publication policies.

Wānanga ki te Tika: Māori-led understandings of research ethics in Aotearoa

By Hector Kaiwai, Tanya Allport, Tia Dawes & Amohia Boulton // Research Ethics

Rather than positioning Māori ethics as a fixed set of rules, the paper argues for an evolving understanding, one that must be continually shaped by Māori research practitioners and their communities.

BLOG POSTS

Beep-Beep! It's Bioethics!

By Jonathan D. Moreno // Hastings Bioethics Forum

Research involving unwitting participants raises ethical concerns about exploitation, lack of informed consent, potential harms, and the importance of meaningful ethical oversight.

Ethical roadblock ahead: How healthcare is becoming quietly wrapped around Big Tech's AI technologies, practices and systems

By Nicole Gross // Journal of Medical Ethics Forum

Healthcare is increasingly organized around Big Tech's AI systems, creating ethical risks for clinical judgment, patient autonomy, fairness, professional values, procurement and corporate influence.

VIDEOS & PODCAST

Insurance Discrimination

CBmE & U Podcast

Research Assistant Professor Harisan Unais Nasir examines the ethical principles underlying differentiation and discrimination in insurance, exploring the tension between fair risk assessment and unjust discrimination, and considering where insurers should draw the line when developing individual risk profiles.

UPCOMING EVENT

The Ethics Edge: Insightful Learning for Today's Doctors

Register Now!

Mode: Online, NUS Learning Management System

Australasian Association of Bioethics and Health Law

Register Now!

Venue: Boorloo/Perth, Western Australia

Date: 29 November 2026 - 2 December 2026

Singapore Research Ethics Conference 2027

Save the date!

Venue: One Farrer Hotel, Singapore

Date: 23 - 24 March 2027

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