What is the Research Ethics Consultation Service?

This is a free service available to all biomedical researchers at the University of California Davis who seek advice regarding ethically complex aspects of their biomedical research. The service is available to assist investigators throughout the life of a research project: during the initial design phase; grant application preparation; IRB application process regarding ethics-related questions and concerns; study implementation; data analysis; manuscript preparation; and dissemination of findings. The service is also available to investigators and their teams who may want to review past research projects that posed ethical challenges and how they responded to those challenges.

What are the kinds of issues that the service can help with?

Examples of the kind of questions that the consultation service might assist with include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Am I confident that the anticipated benefits of my research will outweigh its risks?
- How do I know if the consent process that I am anticipating using for my research is the most appropriate one, given special characteristics of my research population?
- Should I do anything about the fact that my research is controversial in the eyes of many in the public?
- How should authorship be assigned on manuscripts?

Who staffs the research ethics consultation service?

The Research Ethics Consultation Service is staffed by faculty affiliated with the UC Davis Bioethics Program. It may also draw upon clinical and other investigators with significant research ethics expertise.

Contact

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