**Who staffs the Research Ethics Consultation Service?**
The 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.

**Education**
We offer required courses in research ethics to students in various training programs. Lectures, discussions and seminars are also available upon request. We also sponsor special educational events on ethics and translational science.

**Other Resources:**
http://phrp.nihtraining.com/codes/08_codes.php
http://www.northeastern.edu/research/hsrp/

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**Contact Us**
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The UC Davis CTSC is a member of the national CTSA consortium and supported by award TR000002 from the National Institutes of Health’s National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. The Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) is a registered trademark of DHHS.
Overview

Besides education, we offer various consultation and research services. Consultations are available to assist investigators in addressing ethical issues throughout the life of a research project. Assistance is also available to help design and conduct research projects that investigate ethical issues related to biomedical research.

What is Bioethics and Research Ethics?

Bioethics is the study of moral issues in the life sciences, including clinical medicine and biomedical research. A major domain in the field, research ethics, studies a range of issues that relate to the ethical conduct of biomedical research. From a historical perspective, most work in the field focused on issues central to the ethical conduct of clinical research, such as refining the informed consent process; assuring that benefits outweigh risks; and ensuring the just distribution of the burdens and benefits of research across the population. More recently, matters such as the ethical implications of obtaining and using genetic and genomic information, creating biospecimen research repositories, mapping the human brain, and conducting comparative effectiveness research have gained prominence.

Bioethics has grown into a large, interdisciplinary field, drawing from the disciplines of philosophy, law, and behavioral science and bioethicists come from a wide range of professions, such as medicine, nursing, pharmacy, scientific research, and public administration.

What is the Research Ethics Consultation Service?

This free service is available to researchers 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:

- the initial design phase
- grant application preparation
- IRB application process regarding ethics-related questions and concerns
- study implementation
- data analysis
- manuscript preparation
- 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 support?

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 plan to use 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?