

Summary Post

by [Jane Aldridge](#) - Monday, 28 August 2023, 5:11 PM

In my initial post, I analysed the Corazon medical technology startup case study, from the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM), against the British Computer Society's (BCS) code of conduct. I highlighted the areas where the case study meet the BCS code of conduct, however there were a number of areas, which were not mentioned in the ACM analysis of the case study. This included the fact that some of the patients using the Curazon device were below the poverty line, and so it would be important to ensure that there is respect for these patients, informed consent, voluntary participation, data protection, and data confidentiality, and the principle of free, prior and informed consent (Vanclay et al, 2012). Secondly, although Curazon encouraged review and criticism of its application, meeting the requirements of 2e of the BCS code, when a researcher found an issue there was no process to deal with the impact of the vulnerability as part of an independent review.

Through the above case study, and also through reading my colleagues posts on the abusive workplace behaviour case study, I have learnt how important it is to have an ethical code of conduct in place for all organisations, as part of an overall ethical governance process (Vanclay et al, 2012). Business ethics would then be implemented via training programs, employee reviews, conduct policies and procedures, as well as an independent review of ethical issues by internal groups such as employee relations, and an ethics governance board. In all the case studies which I read, this approach would have mitigated any potential ethical issues.

In summary, from my analysis the BCS code of conduct can be applied to the case study and the case study met the majority of the requirements. The BCS code of conduct should be embodied in wider organizational codes of conduct and implemented through governance, procedures and process's.

Another aspect of the analysis was the overlap between ethics, legal requirements and also professional codes of conduct. As an example, the BCS code of conduct states that a member should have due regard for privacy and security, and from a legal perspective this would be supported through GDPR and the requirements of regulators, for example the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Vanclay et al (2012) stated that professionalism in technology must be underpinned by ethics, and professionalism should be defined as adhering to ethics.

References

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