



RESEARCH ETHICS IN AFRICA COURSE

Introduction

Research ethics has increasingly become an integral component of health research with the increasing complexity of research designs coupled with evolving societal norms and views. Ethical considerations are also central in translating scientific and technological discoveries into policy and practice. As the country pursues the goals of Education 5.0, the need to equip a critical mass of health researchers with adequate research ethics skills and knowledge to undertake advanced interdisciplinary research is imperative. The advent of COVID-19 and other emerging infectious diseases has also raised thorny bioethics issues regarding research during pandemics, which require developing and strengthening bioethics research capacity to ensure that ethics is not compromised or undermined when fulfilling scientific objectives. Against this background, the Biomedical Research and Training Institute (BRTI) is delighted to announce a five-day training course on “Ethics in Health Research in Africa.”

Course Aim

The course is designed to provide ethics training for research involving human subjects relevant to the African environment. At the end of the course, participants will have acquired knowledge of health research ethics concepts and principles to strengthen the ethical conduct of research and compliance of research programmes with international and local guidelines.

Target Group

This course suits anyone carrying out or intending to carry out research involving human participants, including established researchers, research teams, early career researchers, post-graduate students, supervisors of students, research nurses, laboratory staff, Non-Governmental Organisations, members of ethics committees/Institutional Review Boards and community advisory board members.

What the course covers

The course will cover the historical context of research ethics, basic principles, the research regulatory framework in Zimbabwe, the role and function of research ethics committees, and ethical considerations in different research settings, including vulnerable populations and communities. Consideration will be given to the ethical issues in special situations – in the laboratory, community studies, particularly behavioural studies among children and adolescents, and access to sexual and reproductive health services for young women.

Fees

A limited number of fellowships are available to qualifying applicants. Additional places will be available at a fee of USD 100 to cover course materials, lunch, and tea for the 5 days.



Teaching methods

This will be a highly practical experience, consisting of an introductory lecture in the morning highlighting important ethical issues faced by current investigators in the region. In the afternoon, there will be group case study discussions. The course will, therefore, use a combination of lectures, discussion of case scenarios and, where necessary, videos. Participants will be expected to participate actively in the courses and to share their experiences with colleagues. Training material will be shared with participants at the end of the training course.

Limited registration

20 places are available, and these will be allocated to eligible applicants on a first-come-first-served basis. The course is being advertised far and wide, so hurry and submit your completed application form by 15 September 2023.

Please use the following link to apply: <https://forms.gle/tBSJT8oJJ4rsjTyFA>

For more information, please contact:

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