

# Unit 3: Participants and Research Ethics

- **Participants**
- Research participant (human subject): A person who voluntarily participates in research after giving consent.
- **Ethical Responsibilities:**
  - Protect participants from harm
  - Discuss potential risks openly
  - Advise on actions to avoid risks
  - Refer to professional advice if necessary
  - Balancing risk and benefit

# The law and Research

## Importance of adhering to legal standards in research.

- Ensures protection of participants and integrity of research
- Participants should be aware of their rights and nature of the research.
- Ethics Committees supervise research agreement.
- Ensure research proposals meet legal and ethical standards.
- Secure handling, storage, and sharing of personal data.
- Participants' rights to privacy and data security must be respected.
- Legal obligations to report research findings accurately.
- Disclosure of conflicts of interest.
- Adherence to guidelines for publication and sharing of results.

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- Compliance with health and safety laws to protect participants
  - Legal provisions for the protection of vulnerable populations (e.g., children, disabled, elderly).
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- **Intellectual Property Rights:**
  - Protecting the rights of researchers and institutions.
  - Adherence to international laws and guidelines
    - Ensuring research is ethical and legal across different authorities.
    - Penalties for failing to obey with legal standards.
    - Includes fines, approvals, and loss of research rights.