

Nareg Panossian Lecture 3 Questions
2/6/2024

1. What is the primary goal of data anonymization?

The primary goal of data anonymization is to make it impossible or at least extremely difficult to identify the individuals to whom the data belongs, while still allowing the data to be useful for analysis or research.

2. What is the Havasupai Tribe case about?

Researchers went to the Havasupai tribe and told them they would use their blood samples to study diabetes in their communities. However, they used the samples to research other genetic factors without their permission, which made them feel betrayed.

3. What was the largest health data breach in history?

It was a breach of the data of Anthem Inc, which is one of the largest health insurance companies.

4. What is the pulse oximeter controversy about?

Pulse oximeters do not work as well for Black individuals as they do for white individuals due to the data they were trained on.

5. What is the role of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) in research?

It reviews and approves research, making sure that it is meeting standards for ethics.

6. What is the difference between spreadsheet software and database software for health data Management?

Spreadsheets hold smaller amounts of data in rows and columns, while databases hold larger amounts of data in more complex arrangements.

7. What is a conflict of interest in public health research?

This is when a person or organization involved in the research has a secondary interest that could unduly influence or bias the conduct, findings, or reporting of the research. This secondary interest could be personal, financial, political, academic, or organizational.

8. What is informed consent in the context of health data collection?

Informed consent means that people participating in something have received enough information about the process to make a decision.

9. What is data masking in the context of de-identification of health data?

This involves replacing identifiable information with random characters or removing it entirely.

10. What is the principle of k -anonymity in the context of de-identification of health data?

Data is pooled into a larger group so that it's hard to identify any one person.

11. What is the main concern about conflicts of interest in public health research?

The main concern is that the conflict of interest can affect the research process or results making the research not as truthful or useful.

12. What is the first step in managing conflicts of interest in public health research?

This is transparency, which means disclosing any potential conflicts of interest from the start.

13. What is the role of independent oversight in managing conflicts of interest in public health Research?

This means having a separate group to review research, like an IRB, which can help outsiders see and stop conflicts of interest.

14. What is one strategy for mitigating conflicts of interest in public health research?

One is divestment for financial conflicts of interest, where the person or organization would divest from the financial interest before doing research.

15. What is the potential impact of not properly managing conflicts of interest in public health Research

It could unduly influence professional judgment or actions and/or pose significant threats to the integrity of research and public trust.