How to protect Healthy Volunteers from Exploitation in Biomedical Research?

2nd online Regional Seminar: Focus on Asia

AGENDA

September 23, 2022
1:30pm to 4pm India time / 4pm to 6:30pm Malaysia time

PURPOSE: The VolREthics international initiative on ethical issues related with the involvement of healthy volunteers (HVs) in biomedical research was launched by the Ethics Committee of the French National Institute for Health and Medical Research (Inserm). A first international meeting, held in February 2022 at UNESCO Paris premises, identified research situations where the rights, well-being and safety of HVs may be jeopardized as well as good practices implemented in some countries to address these issues. Building on this first meeting, regional seminars are now being organized with two primary purposes: to update our knowledge on the scientific and ethical issues in specific regions of the world, and to build a repository of new insights and policy recommendations to safeguard the rights, well-being and safety of HV globally.

SCOPE: Focusing on Asia, this regional seminar will be co-hosted by the Institute for Clinical Research (Malaysia) and the Forum for Ethics Review Committees in India (FERCI). It will include discussions on real-life situations experienced by attendees from Asia, including that of healthy volunteers from different Asian countries. Please note that the meeting will be recorded.

AGENDA

→ Introduction by the co-chairs. 1:30pm India time / 4pm Malaysia time
Chun Keat Chew (Institute for Clinical Research, Malaysia), Nandini Kumar (Forum for Ethics Review Committees in India)

→ The VolREthics Initiative - Learnings from previous meetings. 1:40pm India/4:10pm Malaysia
François Bompart (Drugs for Neglected Disease initiative, Switzerland & Inserm, France)

→ How to protect healthy volunteers from exploitation: presentations on Asian perspectives. 2:00pm India/4:30pm Malaysia
  • Juntra Karbwang (SIDCER-FERCAP Foundation, Thailand)
  • Melvin George (SRM Institute of Science and Technology, India)
  • Nicholas Leow Chun Wei (Bioequivalence Centre & Ethics Committee Section, National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency, Malaysia)

→ Healthy volunteers’ testimonies. 3:00 India / 5:30pm Malaysia

→ Open discussion with the audience: field experiences; identified risks of exploitation; recommendations. 3:30 pm India / 6:00pm Malaysia

→ Next steps and closure 4:00 pm India / 6:30 pm Malaysia
François Hirsch (Inserm, France)

The meeting will focus on Asia but persons from other regions are welcome to attend as observers.
To register: please send message to hvworkshop.disc@inserm.fr