Adapting ethics review during the COVID-19 pandemic

It is of critical importance to conduct research during public health emergencies, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, research and the ethical review of research in these contexts present unique challenges, including the rapidity with which research and ethical review must occur. This seminar will explore the unique challenges associated with the ethical review of research during the COVID-19 pandemic, highlight the manner in which ethical review has adapted to address these challenges over the past year, and identify future opportunities for ethical review of research during public health emergencies.

Associated reading

WHO/PAHO • Guidance
Guidance and strategies to streamline ethics review and oversight of COVID-19-related research (en español) 7 April 2020

WHO/PAHO • Guidance
Template and operational guidance for the ethics review and oversight of COVID-19-related research (en español) 15 April 2020

WHO/PAHO • Guidance
Guidance for Ethics Oversight of COVID-19 Research in Response to Emerging Evidence (en español)

WHO/PAHO • Guidance

PAHO • Video
When does health research need ethics review? 31 March 2021

WHO • Guidance
Guidance for research ethics committees for rapid review of research during public health emergencies