



Global Forum on
Bioethics in Research

Seminar 3: Governance of research involving people with mental health conditions

26 October 1pm-2.30pm (London/GMT+1hr)

International guidelines provide principles and values to guide research with people who have mental health problems. However, obstacles remain for implementation at a national level and achieving an ideal governance framework. What are the challenges to ensuring people with mental health conditions have equitable access and opportunities to participate in research, and balancing protections to safeguard their rights and welfare? This seminar will explore three LMIC case studies and highlight the need for culturally sensitive mental health law and guidance and training for researchers and research ethics committees.

Chair: [Ana Palmero](#), Ministry of Health, Argentina

Panel and presentations:

- [Margaret Ojeahere](#), Jos University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria
'Governance in bioethics and mental health research in Nigeria: Are we there yet?'
- [Mercury Shitindo](#), Africa Bioethics Network and St Paul's University, Kenya
'Strengthening research capacity in mental health research in low and middle- income countries'
- [Haswira Nor](#), Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia
'Equity based research ethics governance model for the inclusion of people with mental health conditions in research'

The following questions will form the basis of the panel discussion. Seminar attendees are invited to submit questions when they [register](#) or by [email](#), or during the live discussion.

1. **Does your country's governance structure and regulation support or challenge the ability to conduct research involving people with mental health conditions?**
2. **Are current ethics governance structures, processes and practices fit for purpose to support an equitable inclusion of people with mental health conditions in research, or do they lead to exclusion?**
3. **What governance mechanisms should be in place to guide and promote research involving people with mental health conditions?**

Background reading

- Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS). International Ethical Guidelines for Health-related Research Involving Humans 2016
- United Nations. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) 2006.
- Nilsson A, Broström L. Participation in Research and the CRPD. *Int J Ment Heal Capacit Law.* 2020;2019(25):3

This is the third of five seminars on the theme 'Ethical issues arising in research with people with mental health conditions'. Details of the full series are available at: www.gfbr.global/gfbr-2021-seminar-series