

## Possible Topics for Ethics Forum 2006

- As indicated in the Guidelines, students have the option of presenting a case study related to research and ethics. Possible cases to use can be located by searching on the following website: '<http://onlineethics.org>'. Click on 'Responsible Research' then click on 'Scenarios in the Responsible Conduct of Research for Student-Faculty Discussion'.
- Unlicensed use of commercial and shareware software.
- Cloning human beings.
- Fraudulent data & scientific misconduct: monitoring and prevention
- Human volunteers for medical research.
- Human stem cell research.
- Use of extra embryos from in vitro fertilization attempts as a source of embryonic stem cells to provide tissues for transplantation.
- Use of embryonic stem cells.
- Plagiarism
- Should pregnant women be punished for behavior that could harm their fetus?
- Research involving individuals with questionable capacity to consent
- Do politicians deserve medical privacy?
- Genetic testing and gene therapy.
- Patients' Bill of Rights vs. state's rights.
- The use of senior citizens in cancer, etc. research. Are they too old to benefit?
- Helping HIV-infected babies.
- Dr. Kevorkian and euthanasia.
- Self-prescription/self-medication/homeopathic remedies for serious illness
- Medical research on military personnel or prisoners
- Selling eggs/sperm.
- Abortion
- HIV test reporting---public protection or individual punishment?
- Should patient's be privy to their doctor's medical history/past? The idea of a national "doctor databank".
- Should our employers be privy to our genetic tests/medical histories?
- The deceptive benefits of placebos.
- The return of healthy research animals to the wild.
- Use of animals in teaching (dissection) and its use as a requirement for some Biology courses.
- Decisions at life's end.
- Human error in medical information systems
- Unprofessional practices
- Professional misconduct and physician discipline
- Consent in genetic research
- Ethical issues with genetic testing in pediatrics
- Should older women be offered in vitro fertilization?
- Physician-assisted suicide under Jewish law

- Does my religion approve of organ donation?
- Ethical aspects of xenotransplantation
- Ethical issues related to terminal illnesses
- Assisted suicide
- Ethical issues related to reproductive technologies
- Use of animals in teaching
- Ethics of self-prescription
- Eugenics at the bedside
- Using animals in research – experiment discomfort, introducing viruses into the field
- Consent for archived tissue specimens
- Human genetic research – recruitment strategies and the informed consent process
- Using shared tissue samples for genetic research
- Side effects of medication
- Disclosing preliminary results to research subjects
- Recruiting relatives of a patient with a stigmatizing condition
- Negotiating research practices with local communities
- Data selection, legitimate or illegitimate
- Personal privacy and medical databases
- Should we be able to choose our children
- Prisoners and transplants
- Cloning animals for parts
- Using soldiers as guinea pigs for biological weapons vaccinations
- Should pharmaceutical reps be allowed to give medical doctors gifts?
- Should ethical standards of research be universal or should they differ based on local beliefs and customs?
- Research involving recombinant DNA and hazardous biological materials
- Human genome project
- Ethical issues in nanotechnology  
Links: [www.ethicsweb.ca/nanotechnology/](http://www.ethicsweb.ca/nanotechnology/)
- Students using technology to cheat  
[www.cnn.com/2004/TECH/05/12/camphone.cheating.ap/index.html](http://www.cnn.com/2004/TECH/05/12/camphone.cheating.ap/index.html)
- Use of 3<sup>rd</sup> world in testing by pharmaceutical companies  
Links: [www.pharmacoethics.com/news.html](http://www.pharmacoethics.com/news.html)
- Technology and the environment  
Ex. ultra-light vehicles - [www.onlineethics.org/cases/design/index.html](http://www.onlineethics.org/cases/design/index.html)
- NASA policies... shuttle disasters
- Ethical issues in research involving human participants  
Links: [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/cbm/hum\\_exp.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/cbm/hum_exp.html)
- Software engineering and computer ethics  
Article: <http://www.onlineethics.org/cases/robot/robot.html>
- Self experimentation by researchers  
Links (mid page): [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/cbm/hum\\_exp.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/cbm/hum_exp.html)



## Topic Selection Form for 2005 Ethics Forum

Please complete and return this form to Peggy Heely at the Office of Experiential Learning (mheely@fcas.pitt.edu or fax 412-624-6877) by Friday, June 10, 2005.

Research Group / Department \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Group Members \_\_\_\_\_

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Name of Faculty Mentor \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail of faculty mentor \_\_\_\_\_

Topics (Choose up to 3 topics. Please indicate order of preference with 1 indicating highest preference)

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We will send you a confirmation of your group's topic by Monday, June 13.

