Teaching Biomedical Research Ethics

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Grau en Medicina:
3r: Semiologia General. Ètica Mèdica
5e: Medicina Preventiva i Salut Pública
6e: Farmacologia Clínica

Grau en Ciencies Biomèdiques:
4t: Ètica, Medicina Preventiva i Salut Pública

Grau en Enginyeria Biomèdica:
3r: Enginyeria clínica, Sistemes de salut i Ètica
WW II: Nazi Extermination and Concentration Camps (1940-1946)
Auschwitz Nazi Concentration Camp (Poland)
Number 10 Medical Building. Auschwitz Camp
Josef Rudolf Mengele: Medical Doctor (Frankfurt University). Medical officer at Auschwitz. Known as "der weiße Engel" ("the White Angel"). Died in 1979 (Brazil).
The United States of America vs 23 Nazi Doctors

*The Doctor’s Trial* (1946-1947). Nuremberg (Germany).

The origin of the *Nuremberg Code*
Ethics in Biomedical Research:

Knowledge of basic documents:

• Nuremberg Code
• Belmont Report
• Declaration of Helsinki

Practical aspects and examples:

• Research protocols
• Informed consent
• IRB submission and approval
• Good Clinical Practices
Informed consent:

For a dying man it is not a difficult decision, because he knows he is at the end.

If a lion chases you to the bank of a river filled with crocodiles, you will leap into the water convinced you have a chance to swim to the other side.

But you would never accept such odds if there were no lion.

Dr. Christiaan Barnard.
December, 1967.
First human heart transplantation.
Everybody lies.
“Utilitarian”

Dr. House:

I take risks, sometimes patients die. But not taking risks causes more patients to die. So I guess my biggest problem is I’ve been cursed with the ability to do the math.

(House MD, Detox episode)
When is Institutional Review Board (CEIC) approval required?

Always.

(Better safer than sorry...)
IRB (CEIC)

PI trying to get a project pass the IRB

IRB members tackling down the PI and its project
YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT

but if you try sometime YOU JUST MIGHT FIND

YOU GET WHAT YOU NEED