



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET

Centre for Research Ethics & Bioethics

IN SHORT

www.crb.uu.se

Research ethics and bioethics

Research ethics and bioethics has become increasingly important for Uppsala University. As a result, CRB was formed as an interfaculty centre. Our profile includes research ethics, bioethics and medical law.

Scientific advances raise important policy and societal issues that need to be addressed with care and sensitivity. Discussions in parliaments and media debate indicate that there is concern about what is happening in life science and biotechnology research. These concerns must be dealt with on the basis of sound research.

Much of our research concerns the everyday experiences of doctors and nurses in clinical practice. We also look at the problems faced by scientists dealing with advances in their field and competition between groups, while still trying to uphold good standards in research ethics and defending the integrity of their research.

Research

In 2010, we are starting two projects funded by the Swedish Cancer Society. One project is on developing clearer definitions and clinical guidelines for Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) orders in oncology care, the other will look at factors associated with participation in phase 1 and phase 3 oncology trials.

For more than ten years we have been involved in biobank ethics. Recently, we became part of **BBMRI.SE** (Biobanking and Biomolecular Resources Research Infrastructure) that has received funding from the Swedish Research Council. **BBMRI.SE** is partner to the European network **BBMRI.EU**.

Our profile also includes:

- Animal and environmental ethics
- Autonomy
- Biobank ethics
- Biosafety and biosecurity
- Codes and guidelines for research
- Clinical ethics
- Enhancement

- Genetic information
- Gender and ethics
- End of life
- Medical law
- Neuroethics
- Paediatric medicine
- Quality of life

Collaboration

Sound research needs a critical mass and constant input. We work to establish exchanges with other groups with research profiles that complement ours. We also collaborate with the researchers and clinicians that face the ethical concerns we investigate.

International collaborations not only pool different kinds of expertise together, but also take advantage of different cultural perspectives. We work together with groups at other universities on biobank ethics, neuroethics and end-of-life decisions. We have formal bi-lateral collaborations with groups in Singapore (CBME), Cardiff (Cesagen), Groningen (ECEC) and Newcastle (PEALS). We also collaborate with the Swedish University of Agricultural

Sciences (SLU) and Karolinska Institutet within the framework of the Network for Research Ethics and Bioethics (NRB).

Education

Ethics is part of the curriculum for both the nursing and medicine programmes at Uppsala University.

We offer a web based course in neuroethics and an advanced level course on ethics and public health. We also offer research ethics courses for postgraduate students at all faculties.

Staff

CRB is a multi-disciplinary research group with senior researchers and PhD students from philosophy, theology, molecular biology, nursing, medicine, political science, pharmacy, psychology and law.

The centre is directed by Mats G. Hansson, professor of biomedical ethics.



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