How Can People Help CIRCARE?

Visit our web site at www.circare.org and tell others to about our information resources. Subscribe to the CIRCARE InfoMail and keep up with important issues in human subject protection.

Learn about how the current system does and doesn't work. Understand the common misconceptions about research so you can make the right choice for the right reasons, for yourself or your loved ones. Find out what questions to ask and why. Ask us questions or suggest new topics for our web site.

Share your concerns with us: keep us up to date with research in your community by sending local news coverage. Find out where to complain about research. Write your to representatives and let them know you're concerned about human subject protection.

Support us with a link to our site, download brochures and pass them on. Donate gifts in-kind -- office and printer supplies, cell phone time -- use your imagination or ask for suggestions.

Support us with a tax deductible donation.

By mail: CIRCARE

24 Indian Lane

Baltimore MD 21210

or

Online: www.circare.org

What Has CIRCARE Done Recently?

CIRCARE officers testified before the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of Science, Board of Health Sciences, at the panel on Clinical Research Involving Children, about the need for extra protection of children enrolled in research.

CIRCARE officers and board members work with regulators and the media to expose abusive research. In 2002 our advocacy focused on the SATURN trial and dubious clinical trials in Utah and Calgary.

In 2003 we began publishing our collected documents released under FOIA; several hundred were posted on our web site by the end of 2004. Our web site offers one of the most extensive collections of information on the protection of human subjects in research.

How Do I Contact CIRCARE?

Mail: CIRCARE
24 Indian Lane
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Telephone: (410) 499-4895

Email: contact@circare.org

E R S I G H T

CIRCARE



Citizens For Responsible Care and Research is the oldest research protection advocacy organization in the United States. We are private citizens dedicated to effective protection of human subjects in research.

CIRCARE was registered in New York on 1996-06-26 as a 501(C) 3 nonprofit corporation.

CIRCARE board members and officers are scientists, social workers, lawyers, educators, parents, physicians, and caregivers. All of them serve without compensation.

EDUCATION

What's the Problem?

CIRCARE's mission is to raise the ethical and professional level of human subject research and medical treatment to a level that is compatible with the principles stated in the National Human Research Protections Act (NHRPA). Support for the enactment of the NHRPA is one of the most important missions of CIRCARE advocacy.

CIRCARE is particularly concerned with the protection of vulnerable subjects, i.e. the mentally incapacitated, children, seniors, the homeless, and the poor.

By raising public awareness of human subject vulnerability in research and treatment, we work to prevent unethical practices. We believe that good science and clinical practice is compatible with sound ethical principles that respect the rights and dignity of human subjects.

Of particular concern to CIRCARE is the fact that federal guidelines do not apply to privately funded research (except for drug applications to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)), thus creating a two tiered system of human subject research standards and safeguards. The often highly complex and technical nature of biomedical research and medical treatment of human subjects also impedes understanding of the ethical implications of rapidly advancing fields.

What Does CIRCARE Do?

CIRCARE is a human rights organization dedicated to the protection of human subjects in research and medical treatment.

We work with the public, the Congress, and representatives of research funding agencies to increase overview and accountability of organizations (i.e. research institutions, hospitals, etc.) involved with human subject research.

By establishing a dialogue with the public and the scientific community, we hope to advance the ethical principles used in human subject research. This is accomplished through public policy statements, testimony at public hearings, a web site, and periodic publications.

What Are CIRCARE's Goals?

- 1. Raise public awareness of human rights violations in research via publications and web site.
- 2. Enlist public support to eliminate unethical research involving human subjects.
- 3. Work with public agencies to ensure that adequate safeguards are provided to human research subjects whether vulnerable or not under existing federal guidelines.
- 4. Work to improve human subject protection where federal guidelines may not be adequate.
- 5. Work to ensure that research organizations, both public and private, are fully accountable for

OVERSIGHT

their investigative procedures and treatment of subjects and that unfavorable data are not withheld from public scrutiny.

- 6. Work to ensure that no coercive conditions are established when human subjects are recruited for a study such as:
- a) Exploiting altruistic motives for participating in the research:
- b) Offers of financial or medical benefits to the subjects;
- c) Persuasion through potential direct medical benefits from the experimental treatment.
- 7. Work to ensure that research organizations provide fully comprehensible and honest representation of their research protocols and potential health effects on their research subjects, and that the subjects(or their proxies)sign a consent form to participate in the research with a full understanding of the protocol.
- 8. Work to ensure that research organizations establish fully and adequately staffed oversight committees (Institutional Review Boards) to safeguard the rights and interests of the research subjects.

CIRCARE Officers

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Treasurer: Adil Shamoo, Ph.D.

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