Human Subjects Research &
the Common Rule

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Rice’s Values

Responsibility
Integrity
Community
Excellence
Respect for Persons

Individuals should be treated as autonomous agents
Individuals with diminished autonomy are entitled to protections

Beneficence

Do not harm
Maximum possible benefits, and minimize potential harms

Justice

Fair distribution of burdens and benefits of research
Common Rule – broadly applicable & IRB oversight/review is value-added

- Methodology is not the same as risk
- Exclusion & self-determined exemption is problematic
- Institution’s Values encourage oversight
Single IRB overview is sufficient for multiple site projects
✓ Posting of Informed Consent Forms could have severe, unintended consequences:

- Intellectual property rights of researchers
- Marketing targeted at researchers
- Protests and harassment
- Security & safety issues
- New reporting requirement
Common Rule – broadly applicable & IRB oversight/review is value-added

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