

Summarized by Salwana Ahmad

RESEARCH INTEGRITY

Dr. Chau De Ming, the Senior Lecturer in UPM, also the Chair of the Young Scientists Network-Academy of Sciences Malaysia (YSN-ASM) Science Integrity Working Group, recently gave a talk at the Seminar on Clinical Research Conduct: Research Integrity and Ethical Considerations. During his presentation, Dr. Chau De Ming discussed the concepts of ethics in research and its relationship to research ethics, the scope of research integrity of which the Responsible Conduct of Research ((RCR) as the guidelines and framework in decision making that are available in Malaysia. In this summary, we will explore the key points from Dr. Chau De Ming's talk, including the importance of key players and shareholder benefits that can help researchers in decision-making. This summary will provide valuable insights and takeaways from Dr. Chau De Ming's informative and engaging presentation. [Get the seminar recording HERE!](#)



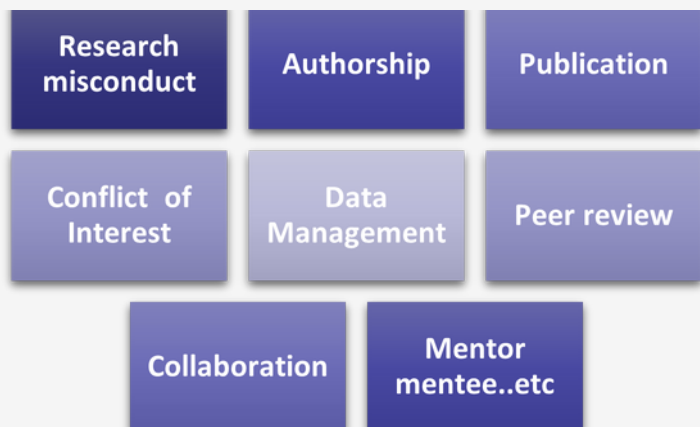
Main Keypoints:

• What is ethics and its relationship to research ethics?

Research integrity refers to the ethical principles and standards that guide the conduct of research. It upholds three (3) concepts which are:

- 1. Law** - Research is conducted in an ethical, proper, and responsible manner, and the rights and welfare of research participants are protected.
- 2. Moral** - Moral considerations in research integrity include Honesty and transparency. Researchers must be truthful in all aspects of their research, including reporting findings, acknowledging limitations, and disclosing conflicts of interest.
- 3. Ethics** - Refers to the principles and values that guide ethical conduct in research, with what is morally right or wrong, and it goes beyond compliance with laws, regulations, and morals.

• Scope of Research Ethics (Responsible conduct of research)



• Principles of Research Ethics Through The Historical Lens of Medical Ethics.

Nuremberg Code (1947)

Belmont Report (1974)

Helsinki Declaration (1964)

Tuskegee Syphilis Study - USA (1932 - 1974)

Guidelines underpinning research ethics codes:

1. Informed consent
2. Institutional Review Board
3. Protection of human subjects
4. Confidentiality..etc.

• Practical guidelines and policies in Malaysia

There are two (2) guidelines available:

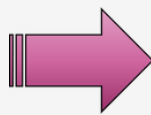
1. Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IAUCAC)
2. Institutional Review Board, Malaysia Guidelines for Good Clinical Practices.

Another two (2) Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) documents for guidelines, that act as a framework in decision making.



What do these codes, guidelines, and policies have in common?

- The integration of the **Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR), Research Ethics, Research Integrity, and Ethical Values.**



In all aspects of research:

- Planning, Conducting, Reporting, Managing People**

Involves

Key players and shareholders consist of individuals and institutions/entities.

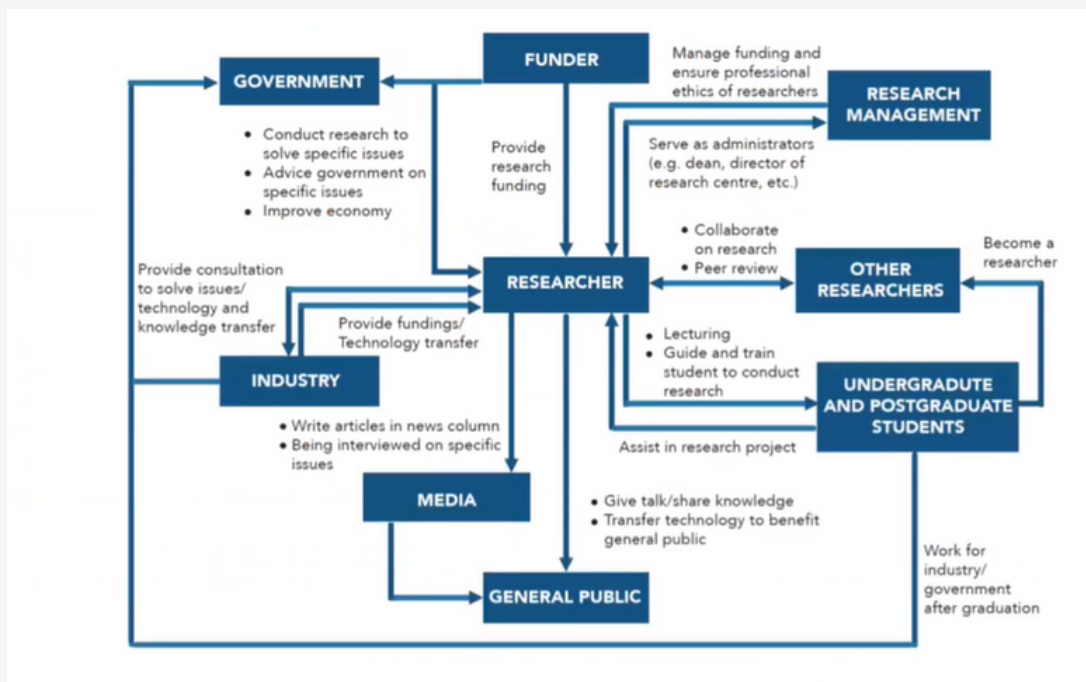


Figure 1 showed the complexity of connection of each individuals and institutions (adapted from the presentation)

Take Home Messages:

- Research integrity is crucial in maintaining the reliability, truthfulness, and ethical standards of scientific research.
- Researchers should adhere to the established principles of honesty, accountability, and transparency in their work to uphold the integrity of research.
- Any deviation from ethical conduct undermines the credibility and validity of the research. Therefore, it is essential to promote, maintain and enforce research integrity as a fundamental standard for scientific research.

Future Look:

- As an individual** - Conduct research with responsible by adhering to ethical principles and best practices throughout the entire research process to promote good influence on others.
- As an institution** - The integration of the research integrity module into the curriculum for - undergraduates, postgraduates, and medical students.
- At the research ecosystem at large** - Collaborate and support various initiatives to foster a culture of research integrity.

The need for the establishment of Research Integrity Office for responsible for promoting and ensuring research integrity within an organization or institution and responsible conduct of research among researchers, staff, and students.

KEYPOINTS FROM ETHICS APPLICATION IN UPM



Presented by: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rosliza Abdul Manaf

Deputy Dean (Academic of Medicine), Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, UPM.

Assistant Member Secretary, Ethics Committee For Research Involving Human Subjects (JKEUPM)

The Ethics Committee for Research Involving Human Subjects Universiti Putra Malaysia (more commonly referred to with its Malay acronym, **JKEUPM**) is specifically given the task of protecting research participants, and to make researchers be responsible in ensuring that the basic principles regarding the use of human subjects are observed in their research.



The JKEUPM has the authority to:

- Approve, disapprove or modify studies based upon consideration of aspects related to human subject protection;
- Request progress reports from investigators and oversee the conduct of the study;
- Suspend or terminate the approval of a study; and
- Place restrictions on a study.

All researchers who wish to conduct their studies involving human subjects at any UPM facilities will require JKEUPM approval. In addition, if the research project involves either undergraduate or postgraduate students at any point, a JKEUPM ethical clearance is also needed.



For more information on the required documents for approval, kindly refer to JKEUPM website [[HERE](#)]

Alternatively, you can reach JKEUPM secretariat at +603-9769 1432/ 1438/ 1244/ 1246/ 1602 or email jkeupm@upm.edu.my



Summarised by: Iman Hafizah

