

Conference Abstract

THE 2016 EACME ANNUAL CONFERENCE
30 YEARS OF EUROPEAN BIOETHICS
The European Association of Centres of Medical Ethics (EACME)
Leuven, Belgium, 8-10 September 2016

Author: **Joanna Rozynska, Ph.D.**

Affiliation: Center for Bioethics & Biolaw, Institute of Philosophy, University of Warsaw
3 Krakowskie Przedmiescie Street, 00-097 Warsaw, Poland

E-mail: j.rozynska@uw.edu.pl; jrozynska@gmail.com

Title: **Three party model for risk analysis and the ethics of payment to research subjects**

Abstract text:

Should we pay healthy volunteers who “loan” their bodies to investigators of biomedical research with no potential to provide any direct benefit to subjects, and – if yes – how much? These questions have been already extensively debated in bioethics literature, however mainly through the lenses of a concern that payment for research participation can be coercive or act as an undue inducement, thus affecting informed consent or leading to exploitation. [eg. Bentley & Thacker 2004; Brody 2005; Emanuel 2004, 2005; Grady 2001, 2005; Grant & Sugarman 2005; Hanson et al. 2012; Macklin 1981, 1989; McNeill 1997; Savulescu 1999; Wilkinson & Moore 1997; Wertheimer & Miller 2008]. Worries about undue inducement and exploitation have had a significant influence on discussions regarding an adequate model of payment for research subjects [eg. Ackermen 1989; Anderson & Weijer 2002; Cooper 1980; Dickert & Grady 1999; Grady 2005; Menikoff 2001; Lemmens 1999; Lemmens & Elliott 1999, 2001].

The aim of this paper is to approach the ethics of payment to research subjects from another angle, namely from a perspective of risk allocation and control. Using Three Party Model Tool for Ethical Risk Analysis developed by Hermansson and Hansson (2007), I will show that that *being a research subject* in “non-beneficial” study is a very different activity from *doing* a dangerous job. Contrary to persons practicing dangerous professions (eg. firefighting), who are the risk-exposed, but also the risk-decision makers, healthy volunteers are mainly the risk-exposed. They are expected to transfer control over their bodies into researchers’ hands and passively endure unpleasant research procedures performed by the latter [Jonsen 1989; Adobe 2010; Rozynska 2015]. I will argue that this difference justify claims that **(i) we should not treat participation in research as a regular job and that (ii) money for participation should not be treated as a research benefit and taken into account in the risk-benefits assessment.**

Financial support:

This project was funded by the National Science Centre, Poland, DEC-2014/15/B/HS1/03829.