

Review of: "How Well Are We Protecting Human Research Subjects?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper is a brief overview of a very critical issue: protecting human research subjects in order to conduct ethical research. It is mainly based on the US protection framework. In the US, the Institutional Review Board (IRB) system is based on the recommended 'Belmont Report', which emphasizes informed consent and assurances of compliance. It ensures that research involving human subjects is conducted ethically and that participants' rights and welfare are protected. This rule has been adopted by multiple federal agencies and is periodically updated to address emerging ethical concerns and technological advancements. Since 2000, ethical clinical research involving human subjects has been based on the Institute of Medicine's human research protection programs to safeguard the rights and welfare of research participants.

Despite these robust protection protocols, many challenges still remain. In the section 'Protecting Human Subjects Participating in Research (2024 and beyond)', a set of 5 performance metrics is proposed for measuring human research subject protection. However, these metrics may be dealt with at length in other research papers; perhaps they may require more elaboration here in this text.

Perhaps further emphasis is required on ensuring informed consent, protecting vulnerable populations, and maintaining privacy in the digital age. These issues could be mitigated through continuous education, rigorous oversight, and adaptive policies.