

Role of Different Categories of Ethics Committee Members



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Outline



- **Constitution of ethics committee**
- **Requirement for membership**
- **The role of members**
- **Confidentiality**

Objective



- **To introduce learners to the role of ethics committee members**

Message



- **Membership of ethics committee is diverse with individuals playing specific roles**

Who is Member



- **An ethics committee member is somebody nominated by the head of a host institution based on expertise & recognized role in the committee**

Constitution of Ethics Committee



- **Membership is constituted by the head of research institution**
- **An ethics committee consist of at least five member**
- **If more than five, the membership should always be odd number**

Requirement for Membership



- **Expertise**
- **Experience**
- **Diversity of the member**
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Religion
 - Socio-cultural background

The Role of the Members



- **Expert:**
 - Responsible for the scientific content of the protocol
- **Ethicist:**
 - Responsible for the ethics content of the protocol

The Role of the Members



- **Community Representative/Lay Person:**
 - Protects the interest of community by ensuring that ethics committee pay attention to culture of the research community
- **Legal Representative:**
 - Ensure that ethics committee's decisions do not contravene the law

The Role of the Members



- **Priest/Imam:** Guides the committee to pay attention to the tenets of religions they represent
- **Co-opt Member:** An individual experienced and working with vulnerable population
- Some members may play dual role e.g gender, priest etc

Confidentiality



- **All members must pledge confidentiality**
 - About all meetings held
 - Deliberations
 - Decisions
 - Applications
 - All matters that come to his/her knowledge