



Global Forum on
Bioethics in Research

Seminar 2:

Equipping researchers to ethically involve people with mental health conditions in research

13 October 1pm-2.30pm (London/GMT+1hr)

This seminar will draw on researchers' personal and shared experiences to discuss the ethical challenges of involving people with mental health conditions in empirical research. What creative approaches have researchers used to ethically involve people who face multiple vulnerabilities and how do these vulnerabilities impact on the practicalities of the research process (e.g. consent and community engagement)?

Chair: [Jantina de Vries](#), Associate Professor, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Panel:

- [Violet Naanyu](#), Associate Professor, Moi University, Kenya
- [Eric Racine](#), Research Unit Director, Montreal Clinical Research Institute, Canada
- [Anna Chiumento](#), Research Associate Primary Care & Mental Health, Liverpool University, UK

The following questions will form the basis of the panel discussion. Seminar attendees are invited to submit questions when they [register](#) or by [email](#), or during the live discussion.

1. **How do multiple intersectionality's of the population you are working with and condition being researched shape the potential ethical issues that might arise, and how these might be responded to?**
2. **Are tools and approaches that seek social justice aims of power sharing and giving an equal voice appropriate for settings with high levels of power disparities (e.g. between researchers and local communities)?**
3. **Are tools that aim to increase researchers' engagement with ethics and integrity accessible to global audiences and/or relevant to the specifics of mental health research?**

Resources

These resources seek to enhance the ethical grounding of research in global health:

- Reid, C, Calia, C, Guerra, C & Grant, L (2019). Ethical Action in Global Research: A Toolkit. The University of Edinburgh. www.ethical-global-research.ed.ac.uk
- Research in Gender and Ethics <https://ethicsresource.ringsgenderresearch.org/>

The following papers relate to the development and implementation of the above resources:

- Molyneux et al. Model for developing context-sensitive responses to vulnerability in research: managing ethical dilemmas faced by frontline research staff in Kenya *BMJ Global Health* 2021: [doi:10.1136/bmjgh-2021-004937](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2021-004937)
- Reid et al. Ethics in global research: creating a toolkit to support integrity and ethical action throughout the research journey *Research ethics* 2021 [doi:10.1177/1747016121997522](https://doi.org/10.1177/1747016121997522)

Background reading

- Harris et al. Reconsidering research exclusion for serious mental illness: Ethical principles, current status, and recommendations *J Psychiatr Res.* 2021 doi: 10.1016/j.jpsychires.2021.09.016.

This is the second in five seminars on the theme 'Ethical issues arising in research with people with mental health conditions'. Details of the full series are available at: www.gfbr.global/gfbr-2021-seminar-series