*New in Ethics & Human Research*

**Covid-19: Why Challenge Trials of Vaccines Could be Ethical, Despite Severe Risks, Equitably Sharing the Benefits and Burdens of Research**

Early-view, July-August 2020: [Why Challenge Trials of SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines Could be Ethical Despite Risk of Severe Adverse Events](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/eahr.500056)

[Nir Eyal](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/action/doSearch?ContribAuthorStored=Eyal%2C+Nir)

Human challenge trials to test the efficacy of vaccine candidates against SARS‐CoV‐2, the novel coronavirus behind Covid‐19, could save considerable time and many lives. But they may initially seem unethical because they expose healthy volunteers to a live virus that is killing many people and for which no cure exists. This article argues that this is not the correct test of their ethics. The correct test is comparative. And in the special circumstances of the Covid‐19 pandemic, human challenge trials meet the correct test better than standard efficacy testing would.

May-June 2020: [Equitably Sharing the Benefits and Burdens of Research: Covid-19 Raises the Stakes](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/eahr.500055)

Carl H. Coleman

One of the central principles of research ethics is that the benefits and burdens of research with human participants should be equitably distributed. This principle has important implications for questions about where research will be conducted, how participants will be recruited, what questions will be investigated, and who will control the distribution of any innovations that result. In the rush to initiate clinical trials of treatments and vaccines for Covid‐19, careful attention to these questions is particularly important. If clinical trials are not designed with equity considerations in mind, the response to the pandemic may exacerbate disparities in health status between population groups. The author calls for an international governance system to oversee access to Covid-19 vaccines and treatments.

*Also in the May-June 2020 issue:*

[Justice and Domestic Health Research](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/eahr.500052)

[The Importance of Engaging Children in Research Decision-Making: A Preliminary Mixed-Methods Study](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/eahr.500049)

[Data Safety Monitoring during Covid-19: Keep on Keeping On](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/eahr.500053)

[Adolescent and Parent Perceptions about Participation in Biomedical Sexual Health Trials](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/eahr.500048)

[Genomics and Infectious Diseases: Expert Perspectives on Public Health Considerations regarding Actionability and Privacy](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/eahr.500051)

[IRB Policies for Obtaining Informed Consent from Non-English-Speaking People](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/eahr.500050)

For more information, contact:

Susan Gilbert  
Director of Communications  
The Hastings Center  
[gilberts@thehastingscenter.org](mailto:gilberts@thehastingscenter.org)  
845-424-4040 x 244