

WIN Pediatric SIG Webinar Proposal 2027
Title: Ethical Issues and Challenges in Pediatric Research

Description:

Navigating the ethical issues in pediatric research can be challenging. Hosted by the WIN Pediatric Special Interest Group, this webinar will guide attendees through the historical context, informed consent process, risk management appraisal, and study procedures for research involving children. Nurse Scientists will share personal examples of successes and challenges in pediatric research, followed by an interactive audience-led question and answer session.

Presenters:

Kristi K Westphaln PhD RN CPNP-PC
Assistant Professor, UCLA Joe C. Wen School of Nursing

Teri Hernandez PhD RN FAAN
Professor and Associated Dean for Research and Scholarship,
University of Colorado Anschutz College of Nursing

Nancy A Pike PhD FNP-BC CPNP-AC/PC FAHA FAAN
Professor and Founding Associate Dean for Research,
Sue and Bill Gross School of Nursing

Annette Nasr PhD RN MPA NE-BC FAAN
Nurse Scientist, Department of Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice,
Stanford Medicine Children's Health
Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Pediatrics,
Stanford School of Medicine

Perry Gee PhD RN NEA-BC FAAN
Director of Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice,
Intermountain Health

Elaine Walsh PhD RN PMHCNS-BC FAAN
Nurse Scientist, Seattle Children's Hospital
Professor, University of Washington School of Nursing

Contact:

Kristi K Westphaln PhD RN CPNP-PC
Assistant Professor, UCLA Joe C. Wen School of Nursing
kwestphaln@sonnet.ucla.edu

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this presentation, attendees will:

1. Discuss children as a vulnerable population within the context of research participation.
2. Describe 2 ethical dilemmas involved with pediatric research.
3. Examine strategies to improve study design, methods, and recruitment/retention for research involving children.
4. Explore successes, challenges, and lessons learned with pediatric-focused Nurse Scientists.

Scheduling request for Webinar:

January, February, or March 2027

Ethical Issues and Challenges in Pediatric Research

I. Historical Perspective on Pediatric Research [5 minutes]

Kristi Westphaln PhD RN CPNP

Assistant Professor

UCLA Joe C Wen School of Nursing

- Early 16th Century = children thought of as property
- Late 1800's to early 1900's = important to families and society & worthy of special protection
- 20th century = "child saving" era
- Where are we now?

II. Ethical Dilemmas - Children Are Not Young Adults [7 minutes]

Teri Hernandez PhD RN FAAN

Professor and Associated Dean for Research and Scholarship

University of Colorado Anschutz College of Nursing

- Who is Considered a Child?
- Informed Consent – agreement of both, navigating assent
- Managing Risk vs. Benefit vs. Potential Study Trauma
- Vulnerable Populations

III. Study Design and Methods – Things to Keep in Mind [7 minutes]

Teri Hernandez PhD RN FAAN

- Meeting high safety and legal standards in high risk populations
- Designing protocols - number of invasive procedures, blood draws
- Clinical Trials – when not in the treatment group [placebo drug or standard of care]

IV. Recruitment and Retention Issues [7 minutes]

Nancy A Pike PhD FNP-BC CPNP-AC/PC FAHA FAAN

- Small patient groups - rare childhood diseases, single medical sites.
- Establishing Trust - Overcoming parental fear, historical mistrust of medical research, and lack of awareness about clinical trials.
- Logistics and Burden - Managing time off work, travel costs, and frequent study visits.
- Long-term follow-up – keep children and parents engaged
-

V. Successes and Challenges – Tips from Pediatric Nurse Scientists

[5 minutes Rapid Fire Talk x 4, 20 minutes]

Nurse Scientist 1: Annette Nasr PhD RN MPA NE-BC FAAN

Nurse Scientist 2: Perry Gee PhD RN NEA-BC FAAN

Nurse Scientist 3: Elaine Walsh PhD RN PMHCNS-BC FAAN

Nurse Scientist 4: Kristi Westphaln, Nancy Pike, or Teri Hernandez

Q&A - 14 minutes