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Contribution – Ethical aspects in research data management

Ethical and legal aspects of DS

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Abstract

The CARE (Collective benefit, Authority to control, Responsibility, and Ethics) and the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable) are among the main principles for good scientific practice and ethically sound research data management. Ethics issues arise whenever research involves human participants and their cells or tissues; personal data; rare plants or seeds; animals; artificial intelligence as well as methods, materials; or experiments that could harm the environment, research staff or participants.

The first step towards ethical research data management lies in the identification of ethical issues and performing risk-benefit analysis for the subjects involved and research outcomes related to science and society. Information security and data protection analyses might be needed if personal data will be collected. Depending on the study design and data collection involved, the study can be subject for a special permission from one of the ethics commissions at the faculties of the University of Bern or from the Cantonal Ethics Commission. Data security aspects should be accurately considered by design using new tools, technologies, and infrastructure.

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