



Center *for* _____
Bioethics *&* Research

CBR

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INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to bring you the first edition of the quarterly Newsletter of the Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) Nigeria for 2026.

Institutional Training on Responsible Conduct of Research

1.1 M.Sc. Bioethics Training with focus on Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR).

On the 12th of February, 2026 our second cohort of MSc. Bioethics trainees successfully defended their thesis during the oral defense examination that was organized by the Department of Bioethics and Medical Humanities (DBMH), University of Ibadan. All the trainees demonstrated exceptional mastery of their topics during the oral examination.



Figure 1: MSc. Bioethics Trainees - 2nd Cohort after the defense examination.

On the 12th of February, 2026 our second cohort of MSc. Bioethics trainees successfully defended their thesis during the oral defense examination that was organized by the Department of Bioethics and Medical Humanities (DBMH), University of Ibadan. All the trainees demonstrated exceptional mastery of their topics during the oral examination.

Our third cohort of trainees have completed their course work, and they have obtained ethics approval from the Faculty of Social Sciences Ethics Committee of the University of Ibadan for their final research projects. The trainees have started working on their final research projects and are receiving support from CBR to complete their research work.

All trainees of the MSc. Bioethics program with concentration on Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) at the University of Ibadan are enrolled by CBR for 'The Program on Negotiation (PON) at Harvard Law School' as part of their training program. CBR is proud to support all the trainees and ensure their successful completion of the program and

Figures 2 to 6 shows some of our trainees proudly posing with their Certificates of Completion of the Program on Negotiation course of the Harvard Law School completed the program are below.



Figure 2:
Ms. Cynthia Komolafe



Figure 3:
Dr. Samson Adeniran



Figure 4:
Dr. Anne Adeyanju



Figure 5:
Dr. Oyeboode Dosunmu



Figure 6:
Dr. Oluwatoyin Babalola

Upon graduation, all the trainees return to their institutions to set up Research Integrity Offices or Units (RIO/RIU) if there is none there already or revive the existing one. CBR provides substantial support for our trainees in this endeavor. This is part of CBR's work in building institutional capacities and infrastructure for RCR, Research Scientific Integrity (RSI), Conflict of Interest (Col), Safe Working and Sexual Harassment Free Environment (SWSHFE) in biomedical research institutions in Nigeria. We also engage in advocacy and building public and professional awareness, implement short and medium duration trainings, and innovative e-mentoring on RCR, RSI, Col, and SWSHFE in Nigeria.

1.2. Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Onsite Training

Our Scaling Up Research Ethics and Research Integrity (SURER) Project continues to implement a multi-institutional collaboration to build capacity and increase awareness of Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR), Research/Scientific Integrity (RSI) in Nigeria. Facilitators from the Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) Nigeria implement these onsite trainings in RCR across Nigeria. Institutions in Nigeria that are interested in training Research Integrity Officers and establishing Research Integrity Units should contact the Administrator, Center for Bioethics and Research (admin@bioethicscenter.net) for more information. You can also visit the project website at <https://surerproject.net> to know more about Scaling Up Research Ethics and Research Integrity (SURER) project.

Blended Diploma Program in Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)

Our fully sponsored, medium duration, blended diploma program on Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) has enrolled our 3rd cohort of trainees. All the trainees received textbooks, stipend for internet access, and full sponsorship to the mandatory weekend retreats of the program. Our 3-month program provides advanced training in research integrity and responsible conduct of research (RCR) for researchers, lecturers, and institutional leaders based on the 3-credit core courses completed by MSc trainees. The RCR diploma program is designed for individuals who want more than an introductory course in RCR but are unable to pursue an MSc. program. You can visit our project website at <https://surerproject.net> to know more about how to apply for the program.



Figure 7: Facilitators and our 3rd Cohort RCR Diploma trainees during a weekend retreat for the course on Introduction to Philosophy for Bioethics.

Training in Protection of Human Participants in Research at University of Nigeria, Nsukka

3.1 M.Sc. Bioethics at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria.

Our ENRICH Program which is funded by the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) Fogarty International Center (FIC) and collaboratively implemented by the University of Maryland School of Medicine, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria and the Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) admitted the 5th batch of trainees in March 2025 for the MSc. Bioethics program at the University of Nigeria (UNN) Enugu. A scholarship that supports tuition, textbooks, laptops, data and a monthly stipend is provided for the trainees throughout the duration of their training. The current set of trainees made presentations on their final research projects at an internal defense examination that was organized by the Bioethics Unit of the University of Nigeria on the 11th of March 2026 in preparation for their final defense examination before an external examiner. The final research projects of the trainees will be supported by the ENRICH Program.

The underlisted research topics were presented by the trainees.

1. Perspectives and Experiences of Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) Practitioners in Southeastern Nigeria on use of Clients leftover Gametes and Embryos for Research.
2. Researchers Perspectives on Informed Consent and Ethical Review of Biobank Research in Nigeria.
3. Attitudes and Experiences of Pregnant Women Regarding Participation in Clinical Research in Enugu State, Nigeria.
4. Perceptions, Understanding, and Attitude of Nigerian Academics Towards Plagiarism – A Survey of Leading Universities in Nigeria.
5. Academic and Scientific Authorship Practices: A Qualitative study among Researchers in a Nigerian University.
6. A Mixed Method Study on IVF Clients' Perspectives in Oyo State Nigeria.
7. Research Participants' Perspectives on Payment for Research Participation: A Qualitative Study of Ogbomosho Metropolis Clients.

Center for Bioethics and Research programs

4.1 Onsite Local Health Research Ethics Committees and Health Researchers training.

CBR facilitates HREC trainings in Nigeria. The training of HREC members is one of the requirements of the National Health Research Ethics Committee (NHREC) for registration of newly inaugurated Ethics Committees and renewal of registration for existing HRECs.

The following onsite training was facilitated by CBR.

Institution	Date	Attendance	Participants	Training type
McPherson University, Seriki – Sotayo, Ogun State.	3rd – 5th March	13	Members of the health research ethics committee	Modern Research Ethics

Table 1: On-site Research Ethics Trainings conducted by CBR



Figures 8 & 9: CBR Facilitators and HREC Members McPherson University, Ogun State, Nigeria.

4.2. Human Subjects Protection training in collaboration with BRANY–Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI), New York.

From 23rd December 2025 to 26th March 2026, we provided the following online trainings:

- a. 1,073 trainings on the Protection of Human Subjects of Research to investigators, students, and IRB members
- b. 2,963 trainings in the special module on the Nigerian National Code for Health Research Ethics
- c. 850 trainings in Good Clinical Practice
- d. 119 trainings in Conflicts of Interest
- e. 1,017 trainings in Responsible Conduct of Research

Appointments / Achievements

5.1. Achievements

Prof. C.O. Agulanna, the head of the Department of Bioethics and Medical Humanities, University of Ibadan and a founding member of the Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) Nigeria was at the West Africa Research Ethics Network (WAR-EN) 2026 Conference in Ghana to make presentations on our SURER and ENRICH projects.

CBR congratulates Prof. Agulanna on the inspiring presentation and excellent delivery, we wish him more success, and we are proud to be associated with him.



Figure 10: Prof. C.O. Agulanna at WAREN Conference 2026 in Accra, Ghana.

Trainees Progress and Academic Development



Figure 11: Dr. Ossai Edmund Ndudi

Former trainee attains Professorial Rank.

Dr. Ossai Edmund Ndudi is a former trainee of our ENRICH program who completed his MSc Bioethics program at the University of Nigeria, Enugu in 2024 and conducted his final research project on "Assessing the Existing Processes for the Management of Research Misconduct among Academic Researchers of Universities in the Southeast Nigeria". He was Promoted to the rank of Professor by the management of Alex Ekwueme Federal University, Ebonyi State in February 2026.

Dr. Ossai's recent publication titled: 'University Teachers Perspectives on Publish or Perish Policies and Research Misconduct in a Developing Country' explored the perspectives of university teachers in southeast Nigeria on research misconduct, the 'publish or perish' policy, and how to promote research integrity in Universities. The link to the publication is here: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s44282-026-00348-z>

CBR is proud of Dr. Ossai Edmund Ndudi 's progress and wishes him more success in his career and research work.

New CITI – RCR Module.

7.1 Online training in Safe Research Environment (SRE) in Nigeria.

CBR has added a new module on 'Safe Research Environment' to its CITI – Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) online training programs. This course is designed to provide a basic understanding of sexual harassment and strategies to maintain a harassment-free environment. Sexual harassment undermines the integrity of working relationships and interferes with the right of individuals to work and learn in an environment free from harassment. The course is available on the CBR Website. Please visit <https://bioethicscenter.net/sexual-harassment-training/> for more information.

CBR is committed to being a leader in preventing and effectively educating individuals on sexual harassment and misconduct.

7.2 The Bioethics Library of the Center for Bioethics and Research.

The Center for Bioethics and Research (CBR) Bioethics Library is the most comprehensive repository bioethics books, journals, and other educational materials for students, faculty members, and researchers in Nigeria.

It is available to all individuals interested in bioethics research and training. The library empowers students and faculty to discover and obtain information needed for their research in Protection of Human Participants in Research, RCR, RSI, DEI, Safe Working and Sexual Harassment free Environment.

The librarian can be contacted, and the library's catalogue can be viewed through <https://library.bioethicscenter.net>. Please contact the librarian for any inquiries at librarian@bioethicscenter.net.



Figure 9: Bioethics library of the Center for Bioethics and Research, Ibadan, Nigeria

The Bridging Gaps in the ELSI of Data Science Research (BridgELSI) Project

BridgELSI project is a collaborative research ethics study and training project at CBR, Nigeria. The project is part of the DS-I Africa initiative of the NIH, and it is focused on bridging the gaps in current governance framework on ethical oversight of data science health research by engaging key stakeholders to evaluate and co-develop novel governance framework for the Ethical Legal and Social Implications (ELSI) of data science health research in Nigeria. Our other investigators in the BridgELSI project include Dr. C. Adebamowo, Prof. T. Ogundiran, Prof. A. Jegede, Prof. S. Akintola, and Dr. S. Adebamowo.

The BridgELSI project recently published two papers:

1. Adebamowo C, Akintola A, Maduka OC, Ikhane P, Jegede A, Callier S, Akintola S, Ogundiran T, Adeyemo O, Adebamowo SN. Knowledge and Recommendations of Stakeholders regarding Ethical Oversight of Data Science Health Research: A qualitative study protocol. JMIR Res Protoc. 2025 Oct 20. doi: [10.2196/78557](https://doi.org/10.2196/78557). Epub ahead of print. PMID: 41130595.
2. P.A. Ikhane, T. Yusuf, O. Adeyemo, T.O. Ogundiran, S.N. Adebamowo, C.A. Adebamowo, Community and bioethicists' perspectives on iPSC research with Ibio-banked samples collected using broad consent, Stem Cell Reports, 2025, 102721, ISSN 2213-6711, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.stem-cr.2025.102721>.

Information on Job Opportunities

The Center for Bioethics and Research widely disseminates information about job opportunities in research and bioethics on our social media pages and website for interested individuals.

Please visit <https://bioethicscenter.net/jobs/> for more information.

Closing Remarks

Thank you for taking your time to read this issue of the newsletter, your comments about the current issue, and ideas for the next issue are what will keep the Centre for Bioethics and Research Newsletter an interesting and lively newsletter.

Please send contributions and suggestions to admin@bioethicscenter.net

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