

According to our text book there are four actions researchers must take to make sure research is ethical to patient/subjects. The first action is to protect the rights of our subjects (Grove, Burns, & Gray, 2013). All humans should be protected when research involves actions that would be harmful to the patient. One example of why one would need this would be with the Tuskegee study. Those men were not told the truth about what was going on and a lot of information was being withheld from them. Had most of the men knew all the information; they may or may not have participated in the study.

The second action is to weight the risk and benefits of the study. Would the research be more beneficial to the patient even though the risks may be great? (Grove, Burns, & Gray, 2013) One would see this with trials with new drugs. Would the side effects of the medication be worse than the actual benefit of the medication to treat the patient?

The third action is to obtain informed consent from the subject (Grove, Burns, & Gray, 2013). One would need to make sure the patient knows all information about the study and what the risks are. The patient needs to know that they are being given all the information they need to make the decision to either participate or not.

The last action would be to have the research proposal institutionally reviewed. One would need to do this to make sure that the patient/subject is protected and that the research that is being conducted would not harm the patient. Patient rights and protection should be the top priority of those conducting the research. Researchers should never lose sight of the patient being protected.

If the project that my group and I chose for our research project has any ethical issues we as a group would need to discuss all the information with each other and with others to make sure that the patient/group we are conducting the study on is no harmful to anyone.

Grove, S. K., Burns, N., and Gray, J. (2013). *The Practice of Nursing Research: appraisal, synthesis, and generation of evidence*. (7th ed). St. Louis, MI: Elsevier.