FERCAP Conference 2009

An International Conference on
Developing Leadership in Ethical Health Research
Towards Good Practices and Integrated Systems

SCHEDULE
Pre-Conference Training – 22 November 2009
Conference – 23-24 November 2009
FERCAP General Assembly – 25 November 2009
NAREC Meeting – 25 November 2009

Forum for Ethical Review Committees in Asia & the Western Pacific

Strategic Initiative for Developing Capacity in Ethical Review

with support from

UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR)

Institute for the Development of Human Research Protection (IHRP), Ministry of Public Health, Thailand

Health Systems Research Institute

WHO SEARO & WPRO
Introduction

While international guidelines, including ICH-GCP and national laws, have been formulated to protect human participants in research, much is dependent on the initiatives of various stakeholders to uphold the highest ethical standards in the implementation of health research. There is a need to regularly update and educate various stakeholders about the state of the art in ethical good practices in health research.

This conference will provide a forum to discuss leading concepts, initiatives, and models to manifest good practices among various stakeholders in the conduct of health research. Creating an accountable and integrated national ethical system is only possible with ethically motivated, adequately informed, and responsible stakeholders who communicate and interact with one another to create the synergy towards credible data and the protection of the rights and safety of human participants.

The various conference speakers will together define the parameters of good performance towards an integrated health research system based on common ethical values. A discussion of the various concepts of leadership can provide a framework towards adoption of culturally appropriate models of research implementation. Highlighting the best practices related to innovative and state-of-the art initiatives of sponsors, investigators, ethics committees, and communities will provide benchmarks for good performance in health research. Identifying models of regulatory initiatives will help identify gaps that should be addressed towards better oversight by national regulatory authorities.

Through plenary sessions and panel presentations, group discussions, and reports, the full range of leadership issues and best practices and their contribution to human participant protection will be explored.

Objectives

General objectives:

• To describe concepts, practices, and initiatives that will contribute towards development of leadership in ethical health research.

• To identify good ethical practices that will serve as models and benchmarks for the performance of various stakeholders (research ethics committee members, institutions, investigators, sponsors, patients, and regulatory authorities) in health research.

• To identify gaps, facilitators, and barriers to integrated GCP systems in health research

• To suggest options and future direction of national systems to maintain the highest ethical standards in health research

• To develop relevant models of leadership in ethical research that promotes empowerment of stakeholders within the context of diverse Asian cultures and pluralistic socio-economic-political systems.
Conference Participants
The conference participants are drawn from the various sectors and disciplines involved in health research, mainly from Asia and the Western Pacific region and from other parts of the world. There are international representatives from national health authorities, ethics committees, researchers, research participants, academic institutions, and the pharmaceutical industry.

Conference Sessions
Various plenary sessions will examine important concepts and roles related to the conference theme. Group discussions among country/area representatives will be used for information exchange.

Conference Outcome
The conference should be able to contribute to better awareness, knowledge and practice about leading concepts and practices for better human participant protection.

FERCAP 2009 Conference Agenda
Day 1: 23 November 2009

8:00 - 9:00  Registration

9:00 - 9:30  Opening Ceremony
Welcome Remarks
Introduction of Guests/Delegation
Vichai Chokevivat, Chairman, Forum for Ethical Review Committees in Asia & the Western Pacific (FERCAP), IHRP

9:30 - 10:30  Plenary Session 1: Defining Ethical Leadership in Health Research Towards Developing a Framework for Good Practice
Chairpersons: Vichai Chokevivat, FERCAP Chairperson
Kenji Hirayama, Incoming FERCAP Chairperson
Open Forum

10:30 - 11:00  Tea and Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:30  Plenary Session 2: Addressing Gaps in Regulatory Oversight Towards Ensuring Good Performance
Chairpersons: Reijo Salmela, WHO Western Pacific Regional Office
Aphornpirom Ketupanya, FERCIT Chairperson
Open Forum
12:30 - 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 - 14:30 Panel Discussion 1: Sponsor Initiatives Toward Leadership in Health Research
Chairpersons: Benjamin Kuo, Secretary General, Joint Institutional Review Board of Taiwan and FERCAP Vice-Chairperson
Sopit Thamaree, FERCAP Local Coordinator, Thailand

Open Forum

14:30 - 15:00 Coffee Break

15:00 - 17:00 Panel Discussion 2: Investigator Initiatives Toward Leadership in Ethical Health Research
Chairpersons: Suriadi Gunawan, National Institutes of Health Research and Development, Indonesia
Ock joo Kim, Seoul National University

Open Forum

18:30 Welcome Dinner

Day 2: 24 November 2009

8:30 - 10:00 Panel Discussion 3: Empowering Ethics Committees Toward Leadership in Human Subject Protection
Chairpersons: Marita Reyes, Philippine Health Research Ethics Board
Tada Sueblivong, Joint Research Ethics Committee Chair, Thailand

10:00 - 10:30 Coffee/Tea Break

10:30 - 12:00 Panel Discussion 4: Establishing Benchmarks in Improving Community Participation in Health Research
Chairpersons: Vasantha Muthuswamy, FERCAP Steering Committee Secretary
Xiuquin Wang, FERCAP Steering Committee Member

12:00 - 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 - 15:30 Group Discussion: FERCAP Area Representatives About Leadership Concepts and Practices in the Asia Pacific Region
Chairperson: Anoja Fernando, Member, FERCAP Steering Committee, Sri Lanka
Ong-arj Viputsiri, WHO SEARO
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Chiangmai, Thailand, 22-25 November 2009

Representatives from Australia, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Peoples Republic of China, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam

Group Presentation

15:30 - 16:00 Coffee Break
16:00 - 17:00 Presentation of Group Reports/Resolutions – Group Panel Chairs
17:00 - 17:15 Closing Ceremonies

Vichai Chokevivat, Chairman, Forum for Ethical Review Committees in Asia & the Western Pacific (FERCAP), IHRP

PRE-CONFERENCE TRAINING
1:00 – 5:00
22 November 2009

Improving Management of Research Ethics Committees

• Role of the Chair
• Role of the Secretariat and Administrative Support

FERCAP GENERAL ASSEMBLY
9:00 – 12:00
25 November 2008

Agenda

9:00 - 9:30 FERCAP 2009 Report Vichai Chokevivat
9:30 - 10:00 Report from Network of Asian Recognized Ethics Committees (NAREC) Chih-Shung Wong
10:00 - 10:15 FERCAP Treasurer’s Report Kesara Na-Bangchang
10:15 - 11:00 Election of Steering Committee Members
11:00 - 12:00 SIDCER Recognition Ceremony

1:30 - 3:00 NAREC Meeting