

Ethics in Genetics and Genomics Research

Professor EFFY VAYENA Health Ethics and Policy Lab @effyvayena

DHEST Department of Health Sciences and Technology

NN | 24.06.19 | 1

1. Cost and scale



DHEST Department of Health Sciences and Technology

NN | 24.06.19 | 2

DATA EXPLOSION

The amount of genetic sequencing data stored at the European Bioinformatics Institute takes less than a year to double in size.



https://www.nature.com/articles/498255a.pdf



2. Clinical care and genomic research BLURRED LINE



"flexible, permeable, and permanently shifting"



The research-clinical interface

able 5 characterizations of the research chinear interface	Table 3	Characterizations of	the	research-clinical	interface
--	---------	----------------------	-----	-------------------	-----------

Characterization of interface	Explication
1. Research and clinical care seen as distinct	Research components are clearly designated and differentiated from clinical care (e.g., consent
	for participation is sought by research personnel in space dedicated to research)
2. Research and clinical care seen as distinct but interdigitated	Despite differentiation between research and clinical care in study design, the mixing of research and clinical care leads to potential confusion, prompting efforts to distinguish the two domains (e.g., avoiding having the clinician seek research consent; research team intentionally chooses to "hand off" management to clinical team after return of research results)
3. Negotiated or dynamically evolving interface between research and clinical care	Decisions related to research and clinical care activities are made in a negotiated or dynamically evolving way (e.g., determining which results to disclose to a participant or whether the research budget will cover costs of testing)
4. Translational merger of research and clinical care	Research and clinical care cannot be separated (e.g., study results are used to direct clinical care)

Bolded selected words signify differences among the 4 characterizations.



Precision medicine: Beyond the inflection point



Hagwood et al. Science Translational Medicine 12 Aug 2015: Vol. 7, Issue 300, pp. 300ps17

DHEST Department of Health Sciences and Technology





Generation genome - NHS

NHS Genomic Medicine Service

How the NHS is working to provide consistent and equitable access to genomic medicine.

100,000 Genomes Project

The world-leading initiative to sequence 100,000 genomes from people with cancer and families with rare disease.

Personalised medicine

Providing better management of people's health by moving away from a 'one size fits all' approach.

National Genomic Test Directory

Department of Health Sciences and Technology

Genomic Laboratory Hubs

Genomic resources



E *H* zürich

3. Beyond the clinic





Best invention of the year 2008:The Retail DNA test



Everybody's doing DNA tests

Total number of people tested by consumer genetics companies through January 2019, in millions



Chart: MIT Technology Review • Source: Company reports, Leah Larkin, ISOGG • Created with Datawrapper

DHEST Department of Health Sciences and Technology

A. CONSENT



NATURE | NEWS FEATURE

<

Informed consent: A broken contract

As researchers find more uses for data, informed consent has become a source of confusion. Something has to change.

Erika Check Hayden

20 June 2012

Koening, B. Have We Asked Too Much of Consent? *Hastings Center Report* 44, no. 3 (2014):33-34 DEPART Department of Health Sciences and Technology

The Fate of Informed Consent

Pagina 1 di 4

Informed Patient? Don't Bet On It - The New York Tim

The New Hork Eimes https://nyti.ms/2m9KVyO

WELL | LIVE

Informed Patient? Don't Bet On It

By MIKKAEL A. SEKERES, M.D. and TIMOTHY D. GILLIGAN, M.D. MARCH 1, 2017 We want to let you in on a secret.

As your oncologists, we'd like to treat you with two, or three, or four different chemotherapy drugs, each of which has distinct side effects, some of which can kill you.

Or, if we were cardiothoracic surgeons, we might tell you that we need to crack your chest open to repair your damaged heart valve, and for that to happen you'll need to undergo anesthesia from which you may never wake up.

As doctors, our goal is to help you, of course, and to do no harm. But we may actually hurt you, irreversibly. Not that this happens frequently, but it might.

How does that sound? Ready to take the plunge?

The secret is that informed consent in health care is commonly not-so-well informed. It might be a document we ask you to sign, at the behest of our lawyers, in case we end up in court if a bad outcome happens. Unfortunately, it's often not really about informing you.

In schools, teachers determine what students know through tests and homework. The standard is not whether the teacher has explained how to add, but instead whether the student *can* add. If we were truly invested in whether you were informed, we'd give you a quiz, or at least ask you to repeat back to us what you heard so we could assess its accuracy. Instead, our script frequently

ttps://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/01/weil/live/informed-patient-dont-bet-on-it.html?_r=0



The American Journal of the Medical Sciences



Volume 342, Issue 4, October 2011, Pages 267-272

Symposium Article

Is Informed Consent Broken?

Gail E. Henderson PhD⊠ ^Q

A BROKEN CONTRACT

ate in May, the direct-to-consumer gene-testing company 23 and Me proudly announced the impending award of its first patent. The firm's research on Parkinson's disease, which used data from several thousand customers, had led to a patent on gene sequences that contribute to risk for the disease and might be used to predict its course. Anne Wojcicki, co-founder of the company, which is based in Mountain View, California, wrote in a blog post that the patent would help to move the work "from the realm of academic AS RESEARCHERS FIND MORE USES FOR DATA, INFORMED CONSENT HAS BECOME A SOURCE OF CONFUSION. SOMETHING HAS TO CHANGE.

BY ERIKA CHECK HAYDEN



CONSENT and the individual

Table 1

Common Features of genetic and genomic research

Research never ends; consent is forever	
Uncertainty about what participant is consenting to	
Privacy risks persist throughout lifetime	
Uncertainty about privacy risks involved	
Autonomy rights are limited	
Can't change mind; consent is forever	
Group harm	

McGuire A, Beskow, L. Annu Rev Genomics Hum Genet. 2010 Sep 22; 11: 361–381.



NN | 24.06.19 | 13

Consent Innovation

Least onerous - info-control + data availability	Midway		Most onerous + info-control - Data availability
	Overseen	Choice-based	
No consent Presumed consent (Gill 2004)	Broad consent 2 = blanket consent + safety + withdrawal + access review (Hansson et al. 2006)	Authorization model (Caulfield, Upshur, and Daar 2003)	Informed consent (Faden and Beauchamp 1986; Manson and O'Neill 2007)
Presumed consent with opt-out (Wendler and Emanuel 2002)	Broad consent + ongoing oversight and communication (Grady et	Tiered consent (McGuire and Beskow 2010; Mello and Wolf 2010; Bunnik, Janssens, and Schermer 2013)	Consent for de-identified samples and data
Blanket consent (UNESCO	al. 2010)	2013)	
2001) (Tomlinson 2013)	Broad consent + governance (O'Doherty et al. 2011)	Electronic informed Consent (FDA and DHHS 2016; Sage Bionetworks	
al. 2008)	Broad consent + trusted	2017)	
Portable legal consent (Hayden 2012; Vayena, Mastroianni, and Kahn 2013)	governance system (Koenig 2014; Garrett, Dohan, and Koenig 2015)	Dynamic consent (Kaye et al. 2012; Kaye et al. 2015; Budin-Ljøsne et al. 2017)	
Broad consent 1 = blanket + limitations (as defined in Grady et al. 2015)			

THzürich

Consent and the family

J Genet Counsel (2017) 26:276–278 DOI 10.1007/s10897-016-0046-7

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

My Identical Twin Sequenced our Genome

Samantha L.P. Schilit¹ • Arielle Schilit Nitenson²

"Are you aware that the test results may reveal information about yourself that you would rather not know, such as predispositions for diseases that might not be curable? Are you aware that you could be subject to genetic discrimination for life insurance or long-term disability insurance? Are you aware that if the security system is breached that the electronic delivery of your results could be accessed by someone else?"



Consent and the family

- Consent and individual autonomy
- Does not consider interests of family members
- Procedures designed for individual consent
- No requirement to consult the family
- Practical difficulties in reaching family members
- Static consent does not account for complexity of decision making

Minari et al. Genome Med. 2014; 6(12): 118.



More than it meets the I?

• deCode uses genotypes from 120,000 participants and genealogical data

- Estimates "in silico" genotypes of close relatives of volunteers
- Can deduce genotypes of entire population
- Able to identify 2,000 people with BRCA mutations

Donna Gitter- Consent for estimated data

http://www.technologyreview.com/news/536096/genome-study-predicts-dna-of-the-whole-of-iceland/



Consent and data sharing



NATURE | COLUMN: WORLD VIEW



We must urgently clarify data-sharing rules

Scientists have worked hard to ensure that Europe's new data laws do not harm science, but one last push is needed, says Jan-Eric Litton.

24 January 2017

BBMRI-ERIC

< 🔒

Consent and data sharing

EU countries agreed to cooperate in linking genomic data across borders





1

Consent and data sharing

- Data protection
- Privacy



| 6/24/19 | 20

Consent and data sharing

PRECISION MEDICINE

By Alessandro Blasimme, Marta Fadda, Manuel Schneider, and Effy Vayena

DOI: 10.1377/hlthaff.2017.1558 HEALTH AFFAIRS 37, NO. 5 (2018): 702-709 ©2018 Project HOPE— The People-to-People Health Foundation, Inc.

Data Sharing For Precision Medicine: Policy Lessons And Future Directions





- International public policy organization
- National public policy organization
- Scientific society/professional organization/expert group
- Public research funder
- Scientific consortium/institute
- Government/governmental organization

Blasimme A., et al. 2018 Health Affairs



DHEST Nuffield Council of Bioethics, 2015

Department of Health Sciences and Technology

"From privacy to trust"

Redefining Genomic Privacy: Trust and Empowerment

Yaniv Erlich
, James B. Williams, David Glazer, Kenneth Yocum, Nita Farahany, Maynard Olson, Arvind Narayanan, Lincoln D. Stein, Jan A. Witkowski, Robert C. Kain

Published: November 4, 2014 • DOI: 10.1371/journal.pbio.1001983 • Featured in PLOS Collections

- Transparency creates trust
- Increased control enhances trust
- **Reciprocity** maintains trust



Can there be trust without privacy?

- Re-interpret privacy
- Redefine how to protect privacy
- Renegotiate trade-offs (medical research, public health)
- "The value of privacy is both to be defended and to be enhanced." (L. Floridi)



OPEN ACCESS Check for updates

Genes wide open: Data sharing and the social gradient of genomic privacy

Tobias Haeusermann^a (D), Marta Fadda^b (D), Alessandro Blasimme^b (D), Bastian Greshake Tzovaras^c (D), and Effy Vayena^b (D)

I feel like, here is some concept of privilege that informs who is willing to share their data, like if you're wealthy and you're not worried about finding a new job and you're much more likely to say what bad thing can happen to be by doing this. And so, I feel like we end up with a lot of sequences that tend to be from people who don't have to worry about it. (participant #3, male, United States, with previous scientific involvement, no children)

> I think I would not be so open about it if I was a person of color or a transgender or ... So, all of what I said before, I said in full awareness that I am an able hetero white male. (participant #13, male, Switzerland, no scientific involvement, no children)



B. Return of research results

- What results?
- **How** to return?
- When to return?
- Who does it and to whom?



Return of research results

- At a minimum: return valid, medically important, actionable (discovered purposefully of by chance- <u>no duty</u> <u>to hunt</u>)
- ACMG list of genes a starting point
- Identifiable participants a requirement
- Participants must consent to receiving results (right not to know)



Return of research results

- Type 1 actionability: well-established medical actions
- Type 2 actionability: patient-initiated health-related actions
 - Individual initiatives of patients
 - Lifestyle options etc.
- Type 3 actionability: life-span decisions



Return of research results

Commentary

Big Data, precision medicine and private insurance: A delicate balancing act

Alessandro Blasimme¹, Effy Vayena¹ and Ine Van Hoyweghen²



Big Data & Society January–June 2019: 1–6 © The Author(s) 2019 Article reuse guidelines: sagepub.com/journals-permissions DOI: 10.1177/2053951719830111 journals.sagepub.com/home/bds





A person undergoes genetic testing as part of a research protocol





Genetic information are protected and genetic test results are allowed to be used only for medical and scientific endeavours.



Premium and coverage should not be impacted.



Genetic results cannot be used for insurance coverage under a certain financial limit (specific to each jurisdiction)



Premium and coverage should only be impacted, if the policy exceed a certain financial limit.



The person could end up having to disclose any genetic findings as part of the underwriting process for these kinds of insurance

This could lead to higher premium and coverage refusal



E *zürich*

C. Public engagement

- Public dialogue
- Information
- Deliberation
- Understanding concerns
- Include in governance





Department of Health Sciences and Technology

6/24/19 | 33

E *H* zürich



A public dialogue on genomic medicine: time for a new social contract? Ipsos Mori April 2019 HEST

Department of Health Sciences and Technology



