

BIOMÉRIEUX'S BIOETHICS CHARTER

At bioMérieux, we are committed to upholding the highest ethical standards in all our clinical research endeavors worldwide. Our Bioethics Charter serves as a guiding framework to ensure that our research practices respect human dignity, promote patient welfare, and adhere to principles of integrity and transparency, especially when accessing biological samples or patient data. By fostering a culture of bioethical responsibility, we aim to build trust with our stakeholders, partners, and research participants, while making a meaningful contribution to the global healthcare community.

RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

1. **Respect for human dignity:** Ensure all research procedures respect the inherent dignity and rights of all individuals involved, including patients and healthy volunteers.
2. **Participant welfare:** Prioritize the safety and well-being of research participants. Implement measures to minimize risks and provide support and/or medical care in case of adverse events.
3. **Beneficence and non-maleficence:** Strive to minimize risks and maximize the benefits of research for both individuals and society, ensuring that outcomes contribute positively to One Health. Simultaneously, commit to conducting research that does not harm participants and maintain heightened vigilance for vulnerable populations.
4. **Respect for autonomy:** Ensure that research subjects have the freedom to make their own decisions regarding their involvement in research, without coercion or undue influence.
5. **Informed consent:** Provide all participants with clear and understandable information about the research, including its purpose, methods, potential risks, benefits, and their rights. Ensure their voluntary and informed consent is obtained, when required.
6. **Privacy and confidentiality:** Protect the privacy of individuals and the confidentiality of their personal and medical information by securely handling sensitive personal data and ensuring it is only collected and used for the intended research purposes.

INTERNAL PROCESS

7. **Continuous ethical review:** Establish a process for ongoing ethical review of research activities to ensure compliance with ethical standards and adapt to new ethical challenges as they arise; submit research projects to an independent ethics review board for evaluation and approval before commencing studies, when required.
8. **Accountability:** Warranty all staff involved in research are aware of ethical responsibilities and establish clear accountability mechanisms for ethical breaches.
9. **Ethical research practices:** Ensure all research activities are conducted ethically, with a focus on integrity and scientific rigor.
10. **Compliance with regulations and standards:** Adhere to all relevant local, national, and international laws and standards governing research on human being (e.g., Declaration of Helsinki, Good Clinical Practice).
11. **Continuous education and training:** Make sure that research staff are trained on ethical standards and practices, and that their ongoing education remains current and compliant with evolving guidelines.
12. **Innovation with integrity:** Encourage innovation while ensuring new technologies and methods are ethically sound and beneficial for participants and society.