Research Ethics Code

Chapter 1. General Rules

Purpose

Article 1. The purpose of these rules is to provide a code of conduct regarding research ethics related to presentations at the International Conference on Radiological Physics and Technology (hereinafter referred to as "ICRPT") and ensure that these presentations are appropriate.

Scope of application

Article 2. These rules apply to the following matters of research ethics related to presentations at the ICRPT.

1. Research and presentations that fall within the scope of the "Ethical Guidelines for Life Sciences and Medical Research Involving Human Subjects" (hereinafter referred to as "Ethical Guidelines")
(Responsibilities as researchers)

Article 3. Researchers should recognize the fundamental rights of all human beings and appropriately conduct academic research and activities.

1. Researchers must, in all circumstances, protect the life, health, privacy, and dignity of research participants.

2. Researchers should engage in academic and related activities in radiological technology and medical physics research considering the preciousness of all life, including nonhuman animals, while accounting for the impact on the environment and future generations.

3. Researchers should be aware of the impact of their research and medical practice activities on individuals and the society and contribute to improving their benefits through these activities.

4. When conducting research that falls within the scope of the ethical guidelines, researchers must pay attention to the protection of personal information, obtain informed consent from the research participants, follow other applicable rules and regulations, and where necessary, obtain prior approval in writing from the ethical review committee and permission from the head of the research institution.

Chapter 2. Detailed Rules

Ethics in research for radiological technology and medical physics

Article 4. As members of academic organizations specializing in radiation, the researchers must act in accordance with Article 3 (Responsibilities as researchers) of this code.

1. Researchers should not expose research participants to radiation doses that exceed acceptable limits, cause physical or emotional distress that exceeds socially acceptable limits, or perform invasive procedures, such as administering unnecessary medications that are not medically justifiable.

2. The acceptable range and relevant items discussed in the preceding paragraph shall be judged by the Ethics Review Committee or other such organizations as stipulated by the ethical guidelines and other regulations. However, if this judgment is considered problematic from the viewpoint of the society, a review based on the society's procedures for registered abstracts and submitted papers may

be conducted, and action may be required depending on the results of the review. For information on the permissible range of radiation exposure, refer to ICRP Publication 62.

3. When conducting an observer experiment, before obtaining their consent, researchers must explain in writing to the observer that care will be taken to ensure that they are not placed at any disadvantage even if they do not fall under the category of research participants as per the ethical guidelines. Researchers should also be mindful of protecting personal information when publishing the results.

(Principles of publication ethics)

Article 5. Researchers, peer reviewers, and individuals organizing academic conferences as well as journals must comply with international or domestic standards to ensure the appropriateness, accuracy, clarity, reproducibility, and unbiased fairness of authorship in the publications.

1. Researchers must comply with these rules when submitting papers and registered abstracts to the society and must make the required declarations factually and correctly. Furthermore, if any inquiries are received during the review phase, they must be handled in good faith.
2. Researchers must thoroughly maintain records of research data and ensure that they are strictly handled during the process of planning, designing, conducting, and reporting research. Furthermore, they must not engage in or be complicit in misconduct such as fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or unacceptable duplicate publication.
3. If a researcher discovers any of the behaviors described in the preceding paragraph, they must report it to the Compliance Committee or the appropriate contact person without any delay.

Conflicts of interest

Article 6. In compliance with the “Guidelines for Managing Conflicts of Interest (COI) in Health and Labor Scientific Research” (issued in March 2008, partially revised in June 2018, Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare) and the “Japan Association of Medical Sciences COI Management Guidelines 2022” (March 2022, Japan Association of Medical Sciences Conflict of Interest Committee), researchers must appropriately address any relationships with companies and other stakeholders or possible conflicts of interest to ensure the fairness and reliability of their research.

1. A conflict of interest refers to a situation wherein a third party is concerned that a fair and appropriate judgment in research is or may be compromised due to financial interests.
2. When a researcher receives money, goods, stocks, or other benefits from a company or other entities in connection with their research or academic presentations, they must disclose this information.
3. Researchers must not include company names or terms that are associated with specific companies in the subjects or titles of their academic publications, as this could compromise scientific neutrality.

Supplementary Provisions

1. These rules may be revised by a resolution of the Boards of Directors of the Japanese Society of Radiological Technology and the Japanese Society of Medical Physics.
2. These rules will be applied from fiscal year 2024 with the approval of the Board of Directors of the Japanese Society of Radiological Technology on June 15, 2024, as well as the Board of Directors of the Japanese Society of Medical Physics on June 28, 2024.