



Workshop
an introduction to

Reflexivity in Bioethical Research

Resource Persons:

Dr. Michael Dunn, Associate Professor,
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University of Oxford

Dr. Jonathan Ives, Reader in Empirical
Bioethics, Centre for Ethics in Medicine,
University of Bristol

Coordinator:

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Faculty Advisor:

Dr. Roberto Andorno, Institute of Biomedical
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Summary

Have you wondered, as a researcher, how your values and ethical positions influence your research in bioethics? How do you navigate the conflicting values of yours' and research participants? Reflexivity is a concept and practice widely recognized in doing qualitative research. It is a project of examining how researchers' ideas and intersubjective elements impact and transform research. Being self-reflective of epistemological and methodological positions while doing your research plays a significant role and influence on your research. It can be observed as introspection, intersubjective reflection or part of mutual collaboration. For some scholars reflexivity is considered as a methodological tool. For others, it is part of the research process and research ethics. Recently, reflexivity has been gaining significance within the field of bioethics research. In this workshop, we aim to introduce the concept of reflexivity, its significance, and challenges in bioethics research.

The overall goal of the workshop is to share, analyse and reflect on positionality, ethical, methodological, theoretical and epistemological concerns while employing reflexivity in research.

Purpose

To introduce the concept of reflexivity in bioethics research

Target audience

All those with an interest in conducting a qualitative inquiry in health research and bioethics, including masters students, doctoral students, and early career researchers.

Outcomes

- Learn the concept of reflexivity in the context of qualitative research, empirical ethics and bioethics
- Identify the significance and challenges of using reflexivity in bioethics

Date: October 30th and Nov 11th, 2020

Online: Zoom Meeting

Registration: Free

This workshop will be held by video conference through Zoom platform.

Please email **Supriya Subramani**
supriya.subramani@ibme.uzh.ch
to register. A link to the meeting will be shared to you along with reading materials.



Schedule

**Session 1
Oct 30th 2020**

**Qualitative Inquiry and the concept of
'reflexivity'**

Supriya Subramani

**Introduction to Qualitative Inquiry:
Paradigms and Practice**

Time: 14:00-15:00 (CET)

Methods: Lecture and interactive session

Reading:

Denzin, N. K., & Lincoln, Y. S. (2018). *The Sage handbook of qualitative research*. Sage. Chapter 1 (Introduction: The discipline and practice of qualitative research).

15:00-15:15 Q & A

Concept of Reflexivity in Qualitative research

Time: 15:15-16:00

Methods: Lecture and interactive session

Reading:

Berger, R (2015) Now I see it, now I don't: Researcher's position and reflexivity in qualitative research. *Qualitative Research* 15(2): 219–234.

Relevance of Reflexivity in Empirical Ethics Research

Time: 16:00-16:45

Methods: Lecture and interactive session

Reading

Subramani, S. (2019). Practising reflexivity: Ethics, methodology and theory construction. *Methodological Innovations*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2059799119863276>

16:45-17:15 Discussion

**Session 2
Nov 11th 2020 (2:00- 4.30PM, CET)**

Introduction

Time: 2:00-2:10 PM

A Call For Reflexivity in Bioethics

By: Michael Dunn and Jonathan Ives

Date and Time: 2:15 - 2:40PM

Introduce the need for reflexivity in Bioethics

Discuss the significance of reflexivity and its implications

Method: Lecture/Joint Presentation

Q&A: 2:40-2:55PM

Session 3

Role of reflexivity in moral epistemological debates in Bioethics

Date and Time: Nov 11th 2020, 2:55-4:30PM(CET)

Panel discussants (along with Dunn and Ives): Kristina Maria Würth (University of Basel); Sebastian Wäscher (IBME, UZH); Jana Sedlakova (IBME) and Daniel Drewniak (IBME)

Method: Panel Discussion and Q&A
Moderator: Supriya Subramani

Readings:

Ives, J. and Dunn, M. (2010) Who's Arguing? A Call For Reflexivity In Bioethics. *Bioethics*, 24: 256-265. [10.1111/J.14678519.2010.01809.X](https://doi.org/10.1111/J.14678519.2010.01809.X)

Dunn, M., & Ives, J. (2009). Methodology, epistemology, and empirical bioethics research: a constructive/ist commentary. *The American Journal of Bioethics*, 9(6-7), 93-95. [10.1080/15265160902874403](https://doi.org/10.1080/15265160902874403)