

Statute of the Ethics Committee for Human Subjects Research of the J. Heyrovský Institute of Physical Chemistry of the CAS

Article 1 – Establishment of the Ethics Committee for Human Subjects Research

The Ethics Committee for Human Subjects Research of the J. Heyrovský Institute of Physical Chemistry of the Czech Academy of Sciences (HIPC) (hereafter referred to as the “Ethics Committee”) was appointed by the Institute’s Director on 17.12.2018.

Article 2 – Scope of the Ethics Committee for Human Subjects Research

1. The Ethics Committee is an integral part of the system ensuring the quality and adherence to ethical standards of the research conducted at HIPC and by anyone collaborating with HIPC.
2. The Ethics Committee deals with the ethical aspects of research involving human subjects conducted at HIPC or by anyone collaborating with HIPC, excluding activities falling under the tasks of the Committee for Scientific Work Ethics of the HIPC.
3. The Ethics Committee acts upon the request of applicants from HIPC or individuals collaborating with HIPC or on its own initiative.

Article 3 – Membership in the Ethics Committee

1. Membership in the Ethics Committee is established by appointment. Members of the Ethics Committee are appointed and dismissed by the director of HIPC. Members of the Ethics Committee have an obligation to actively participate in its activities.
2. The Ethics Committee comprises at least five members. The Ethics Committee members consist of employees of HIPC and external members who are not employed at HIPC. External members constitute at least one-fourth of all Ethics Committee members.
3. The member of the Ethics Committee can be a person who:
 - a) is over 18 years old;
 - b) expresses consent to their membership in the Ethics Committee;
 - c) accepts the obligation of confidentiality regarding the content of submitted research to prevent misuse of the information contained in the Applications for Ethics Approval;
 - d) commits to declare any conflict of interest to the assessment of any submitted study.
4. The term of office for Ethics Committee members is five years. An Ethics Committee member may be reappointed. The list of Ethics Committee members is kept in the archives of HIPC and is published on the HIPC website.
5. The activities of the Ethics Committee are governed by its Chair, represented by the Vicechair. The activities of the Ethics Committee may also be governed by an Ethics Committee member authorized by the Chair or acting Vicechair. The director of HIPC appoints the Chair and Vicechair of the Ethics Committee.
6. Membership in the Ethics Committee terminates by dismissal, the resignation of a member

upon their own written request, or the death of a member.

Article 4 – Activities of the Committee

1. The mission of the Ethics Committee is to ensure the protection of the dignity, freedom, health, quality of life, and safety of all persons recruited for the research.
2. The basic activity of the Ethics Committee is the supervision of the application and adherence to ethical standards of human subjects' research conducted within HIPC and by individuals collaborating with HIPC.
3. Within its scope, the Ethics Committee, in particular:
 - a) ensures that all studies requiring assessment of ethical aspects submitted to the Ethics Committee are evaluated in a competent, objective, and independent process; it does so quickly and without delay;
 - b) assesses whether the research proposal submitted to the Ethics Committee complies with ethical standards and issues in a written decision;
 - c) is authorized to monitor the progress of the research for which it has issued a decision;
 - d) pays special attention to the protection of vulnerable or dependent persons recruited for the research.
4. Upon request, the Ethics Committee provides consultations to researchers at HIPC and individuals collaborating with HIPC regarding the identification of possible ethical risks in human subject research and application of relevant preventive or corrective measures.

Article 5 – Final Provisions

1. The proceedings of the Ethics Committee are governed by its Rules of Procedures.
2. This Statute of the Ethics Committee for Human Subjects Research will enter into force upon its publication.

In Prague on _____

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