UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA

UFS·UV
HEALTH SCIENCES
GESONDHEIDSWETENSKAPPE

GUIDELINES

REGARDING ADVERTISING FOR PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN RESEARCH STUDIES

A. WHEN ADVERTISING FOR TRIAL PERSONS TO PARTICIPATE IN CLINICAL EXPERIMENTS TO TEST NEW MEDICATION, THERE IS A CLASH OF INTERESTS:

1. The interests of the treating medical practitioner to retain his patient and to be able to complete his therapeutic series of treatments.

2. The interests of the patient to avoid being exposed to placebo or less effective medication when he is receiving treatment by means of more effective medication.

3. The interests of science to develop increasingly better and more effective medicines.

B. IN ORDER TO TRY TO RECONCILE THESE CLASHES, THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES ARE SUGGESTED:

1. Trial persons should only participate in clinical studies with the full knowledge of and of good clinical practice and in the interests of the trial person.

2. It must be stated clearly that a clinical test is done over a limited period, and that the trial person is subsequently treated by his usual practitioner.

3. The above information should be given to the trial person in writing as part of the agreement that the experimenter enters into with him.

4. The trial period should be mentioned in the advertisement, and it should also be stated that the test will be undertaken after consultation with patients' treating medical practitioners. Experimenters should not state that the trial preparation is more effective than existing medication, because that still has to be determined.

   The professional rule regarding advertising by medical practitioners is directed at unfair recruitment by means of advertisements placed by private practitioners. Recruiting patients for a temporary test is obviously not the subject of the professional rule. When private practitioners advertise for trial persons to participate in studies undertaken by them, the professional rule may be involved, and prior approval should preferably be obtained from the SAMDC.

C. INFORMATION THAT HAS TO BE AVAILABLE ON ADVERTISEMENTS

1. Advertisement in its final form (logo etc.) must be presented to the Ethics Committee
2. Note condition in layman's terms
3. Category participants: Age, etc.
4. Which method will be used, e.g. questionnaires
5. Remuneration for transport and inconvenience
6. Any costs payable by participant
7. Contact person's name and number
8. For further enquiries also note office hours, if applicable
9. Voluntary participation and participant may withdraw at any time
10. currently on treatment will participation in the research study in conjunction with the treating physician
11. Time duration of study

D. EXAMPLE

DO YOU SUFFER FROM OSTEO-ARTHRITIS
OR
RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS?

ARE YOU OVER THE AGE OF 6o, MALE OR FEMALE?

You are invited to participate in a research study that will extend over approximately six months.

Your participation will be in collaboration with your treating physician.

Remuneration for transport and inconvenience is under discussion.

CONTACT PERSON ……

CELLPHONE NUMBER …….

Compiled for the Ethics Committee for Medical Research.
DR HENNIE OOSTHUIZEN
PROF THEUNS VERSCHOOR
Dept of Criminal and Medical Law
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