The Leopoldina originated in 1652 as a classical scholarly society and now has 1,600 members from almost all branches of science. In 2008, the Leopoldina was appointed as the German National Academy of Sciences and, in this capacity, was invested with two major objectives: representing the German scientific community internationally, and providing policymakers and the public with science-based advice.

The Leopoldina champions the freedom and appreciation of science. It promotes a scientifically enlightened society and the responsible application of scientific insight for the benefit of humankind and the natural world. In its interdisciplinary discourse, the Academy transcends thematic, political and cultural boundaries. It is also an advocate of human rights.

The Leopoldina originated in 1652 as a classical scholarly society and now has 1,600 members from almost all branches of science. In 2008, the Leopoldina was appointed as the German National Academy of Sciences and, in this capacity, was invested with two major objectives: representing the German scientific community internationally, and providing policymakers and the public with science-based advice.

The Leopoldina champions the freedom and appreciation of science. It promotes a scientifically enlightened society and the responsible application of scientific insight for the benefit of humankind and the natural world. In its interdisciplinary discourse, the Academy transcends thematic, political and cultural boundaries. It is also an advocate of human rights.

How to find us

Event location
Bayerische Landesärztekammer (BLÄK)/State Chamber of Physicians of Bavaria
Mühlbaurstraße 16
81677 Munich, Germany

Registration
Please register to participate by 17 April 2024 at: www.leopoldina.org/registration-vulnerable-people/

Research with vulnerable people

A targeted interdisciplinary discussion within the scope of the WMA Declaration of Helsinki revision

Contact
German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
Dr. Stefanie Bohley, E-Mail: stefanie.bohley@leopoldina.org
German Medical Association
Dr. Ramin Parsa-Parsi, E-Mail: international@baek.de

14 – 15 May 2024
State Chamber of Physicians of Bavaria (BLÄK)
Mühlbaurstraße 16
81677 Munich, Germany

In collaboration with

With kind support of
Research with vulnerable people

A targeted interdisciplinary discussion within the scope of the WMA Declaration of Helsinki revision

In July 2023, the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina established a working group focused on the Framework Conditions for Clinical Trials on Vulnerable People. The objective of the working group is to demonstrate ethically justified improvements to the framework conditions for clinical studies on vulnerable people, particularly children and adolescents.

Co-organised by the Leopoldina and the German Medical Association, in collaboration with the World Medical Association and the American Medical Association, and with kind support from the State Chamber of Physicians of Bavaria, the conference "Research with vulnerable people" represents one aspect of the working group’s approach. This targeted interdisciplinary discussion will be held within the scope of the ongoing revision of the World Medical Association’s Declaration of Helsinki (DoH). The aim of this meeting is to foster discussion on the paragraphs in the DoH focused on vulnerability with proven experts and then to proactively contribute the resulting findings to the revision process.

Day 1 – 14 May 2024

12:00 – 01:00 pm | Lunch for all participants
12:00 – 02:00 pm | On-site registration

02:00 – 02:30 pm
Welcome remarks
Gerald Quitterer, MD, President, Bavarian State Chamber of Physicians
Representative of the (Bavarian) government (tbc)
Lujain AlQodmani, MD, WMA President
Gerald Haug, PhD, President, Leopoldina
Klaus Reinhardt, MD, President, German Medical Association

02:30 – 02:45 pm
Brief introduction and history of the WMA Declaration of Helsinki
Ramin Parsa-Parsi
MD, MPH, Head of Department for International Affairs, German Medical Association

02:45 – 03:00 pm
Introduction to the current DoH revision process and recap of previous WMA conferences on vulnerable groups
Jack Resneck
MD, Chair of WMA DoH Workgroup

03:00 – 03:15 pm
Introduction to the current discussion in the Leopoldina workgroup
Urban Wiesing ML
MD, PhD, Chair of Leopoldina WG on vulnerable groups

03:15 – 03:45 pm
Mapping of vulnerability
Pierre Mermet-Bouvier
PhD, Senior Manager, eCOA, ICON, Paris

03:45 – 04:00 pm | Coffee break

04:00 – 05:00 pm
Analysis of vulnerability
Samia Hurst
MD, Director, Institute for Ethics, History, and the Humanities, University of Geneva

Vulnerability in different research settings
Florenzia Luna
PhD, Principal Researcher, FLACSO/CONICET, Buenos Aires

Vulnerability as defined in the CIOMS guidelines
Rieke van der Graaf
PhD, Julius Center, Department of Global Public Health & Bioethics, UMC Utrecht

US Food & Drug Administration

05:00 – 05:45 pm
Panel discussion
Panel: Drs. Mermet-Bouvier, Hurst, Luna, van der Graaf
Moderator: Steinunn Þórðardóttir
MD, Chair, WMA Medical Ethics Committee

06:00 pm | Dinner

Day 2 – 15 May 2024

09:00 – 10:30 am
Delay of medicines, focus on children
Gilles Vassal
PhD, Gustave Roussy Comprehensive Cancer Center, Paris

Children, subsidiarity of research
Olaf Witt
MD, University Hospital Heidelberg

Conditions under which research with vulnerable groups should be permitted + Discussion
Alex John London
PhD, Director, Center for Ethics and Policy, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh

US National Institutes of Health (NIH)

10:30 – 11:00 am | Coffee break

11:00 am – 12:30 pm
Panel discussion and review of the WMA DoH paragraph on vulnerable groups
Moderator: Jack Resneck
MD, Chair of WMA DoH workgroup

12:30 – 01:30 pm | Lunch for all participants

End of meeting

02:00 – 04:00 pm
Closed WMA DoH workgroup meeting incl. selected guests

04:00 – 06:00 pm | Tour of Munich
(for all participants who registered for the tour)

06:00 pm | Informal dinner
(for all participants who registered for the dinner)