



STATEMENT

Statement on the revision of the Declaration of Helsinki on ethical principles for medical research

On 19 October 2024, the World Medical Association (WMA) General Assembly unanimously voted to adopt a set of revisions to the [Declaration of Helsinki](#) on ethical principles for medical research.

IFPMA welcomes the adoption of the revised Declaration of Helsinki, which represents a significant milestone in ensuring ethical principles for medical research are not only upheld but are updated in a way which reflect the evolving society in which they must apply.

Clinical research underpins the development of every new medicine and vaccine, and the pharmaceutical industry is increasing efforts to broaden access to clinical trials and ensure more diverse and equitable inclusion, often engaging with vulnerable groups and individuals and finding that delicate balance between inclusion and protection, while ensuring voluntary and informed consent.

Working closely with the WMA, we are pleased to see the revised Declaration further encourages the inclusion of vulnerable groups and individuals in clinical research, protecting them *through* research' instead of *from* research.

Finally, we believe it is critical to ensure the Declaration of Helsinki stays apace with the continual evolution of clinical research and medical innovation, while minimizing the risk and burden on research participants and upholding ethical principles. We look forward to working with WMA to help provide perspectives on where medical innovation may be leading us for the next revision of the Declaration.

About IFPMA

IFPMA represents the innovative pharmaceutical industry at the international level, engaging in official relations with the United Nations and multilateral organizations. Our vision is to ensure that scientific progress translates into the next generation of medicines and vaccines that deliver a healthier future for people everywhere. To achieve this, we act as a trusted partner, bringing our members' expertise to champion pharmaceutical innovation, drive policy that supports the research, development, and delivery of health technologies, and create sustainable solutions that advance global health.

For more information, visit ifpma.org.

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