

Dialogue 149

Outsourcing, Offshoring and Oversight: The Challenge for Global Justice

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In a globalized economy, “outsourcing” and “offshoring” are normal business practices, and they have entered the world of clinical research. Close to 50% of all clinical research is taking place today in developing countries. Since the 1990s, there has been a vivid ethical discussion about such research initiatives. I argue that the practice of international research requires a redefinition of nonmaleficence and social justice in global terms. Moreover, these general ethical principles require further specification if they are to give practical guidance to research practitioners worldwide.

Dr. Ferrer is Professor and Director of the Bioethics Institute at the University of Puerto Rico. A former Visiting Professor and “Jesuit Chair” in the Theology Department at Georgetown University, he is the author of *Deber y deliberación, una invitación a la bioética (Duty and Deliberation: An Invitation to Bioethics – Mayagüez, Centro de Publicaciones Académicas de la Universidad de Puerto Rico en Mayagüez, 2007).*

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