

2007-2008 Action Plan
Medical Research, Biotechnology & Clinical Ethics Issues Interest Group
Chair: Bruce F. Howell
Vice-Chairs: LaDale K. George
Betty C. Pang
W. Thomas Smith

I. Interest Group Structure

A. Interest Group Activities for the 2007-2008 Year

The “interests” of the Medical Research, Biotechnology & Clinical Ethics Issues Interest Group (“IG”) are varied. This year the Group produced a teleconference concerning the use of advanced directives and the Texas law concerning end-of-life protocols. We plan on producing at least two teleconferences this bar year for ABA members.

B. Special Committees

The IG plans to coordinate with special committees or working groups regarding the issues of access and to work closely with the working group on telemedicine.

C. Contact Information for Interest Group Leaders

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Liaison Publication and Membership Committee

II. Membership

The Interest Group leadership will seek to have routine communications with interest group members, including at least monthly updates through the Interest Group list-serve.

III. Government Submissions

Currently, the Interest Group has no government submissions planned. However, LaDale George is working on securing a position on the HHS Secretary's Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections, (a HRP").

IV. Publications Area

As events warrant, we will seek to publish articles in The Health Lawyer, and other appropriate venues such as the E-Source newsletter. Bruce Howell will spearhead our group's efforts regarding publications.

V. Educational Programs

This is one of the main areas of outreach for the Interest Group. We had a successful teleconference in July on end of life issues and a breakout session on the same topic at EMI. The IG leadership would like to produce two teleconferences during this bar year for our members. Betty Pang will continue to coordinate the IG's efforts with respect to teleconferences. Additionally, the IG will sponsor a plenary session at the 2008 EMI program and will have a breakfast session at the DC Summit. Tommy Smith will act as scientific advisor to our IG and will work with this Section's leadership on the "access" issues.

VI. Public Service Projects

The leadership of the IG has determined that we would like for the IG to be the "liaison of choice" with the HRP. LaDale George will be heading up this effort.

VII. Technology

We will seek to be more consistent in communicating with IG members through the IG's list-serve. Currently, we plan to have at least one communication with list-serve members per month.

VIII. Other

N/A