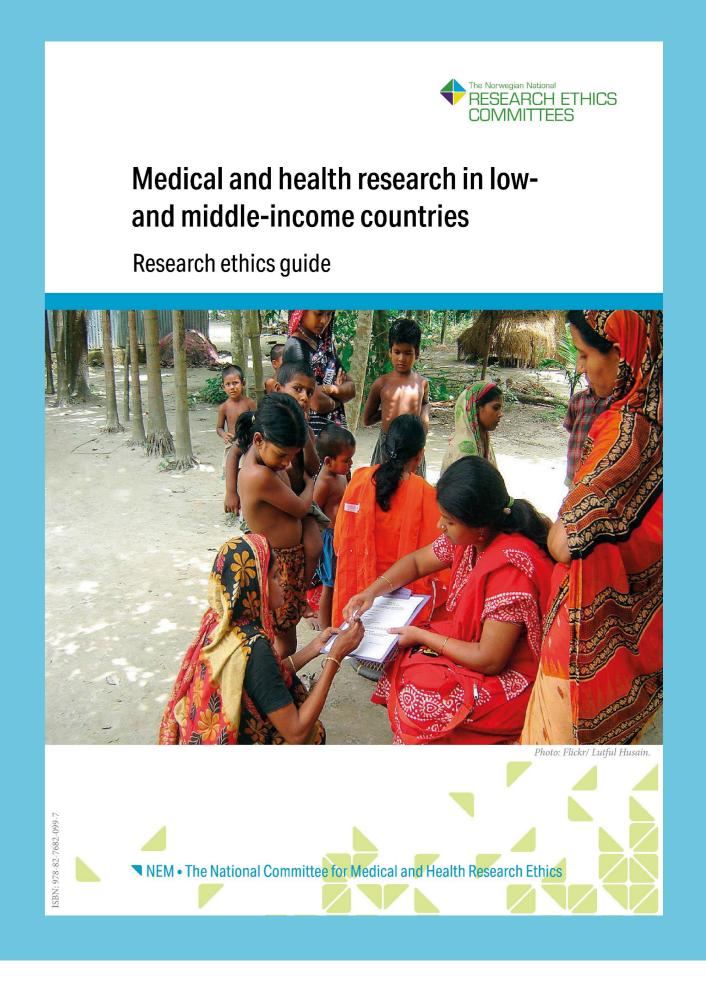
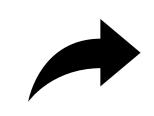
Medical and health research in low- and middle-income countries

Camilla Bø Iversen, director of NEM

Aguide to help researchers safeguard ethical principles in medical and health research conducted in low-and-middle income countries has recently been published by the Norwegian National Committee for Medical and Health Research Ethics (NEM).





Background

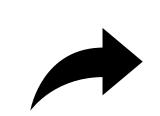
Norway has experienced growth in the field of international health, as well as an increased international research activity in low- and middle-income countries.

NEM's guide is a tool to help researchers take a broad research ethics approach when planning and conducting their research.



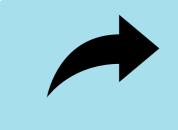
Ethical considerations

- Cultural differences
- Risk of exploitation
- Vulnerable groups
- Local partnership



Ethical principles for integration in research projects

- Fairness through local relevance and benefit
- Respect for the individual and their community
- No harm done to the research participant or their community



Ethical pre-approval

When conducting research in a low- or middle-income country, the project should obtain a local research ethics assessment. The guide states when the project also needs a pre- approval from a Norwegian regional ethic committee. It also includes an FAQ with specific examples.



