



Public consultation on a draft revised version of the Declaration of Geneva

8 May 2017

Dear colleagues,

The Declaration of Geneva was adopted by the World Medical Association (WMA) at its second General Assembly in 1948 and is considered one of the core documents of medical ethics. In 2016, the Declaration of Geneva was scheduled for revision. A workgroup was established by the WMA and given the mandate to assess the need for a revision and to develop a draft revised version of the Declaration of Geneva.

Experts, stakeholders and the WMA's national medical association members are now invited to comment on the proposed changes which have been drawn up by the workgroup following a careful process of deliberation. To this end, a three-week public consultation will take place from **8 May to 29 May 2017**.

To inform its decisions regarding suggested amendments, the WMA workgroup tasked with assessing the need for a revision and developing a draft revised version has held comprehensive discussions, consulted with WMA ethics advisors and carried out a survey of WMA members regarding the use of physicians' oaths and, more specifically, the Declaration of Geneva.

The proposed amendments are intended to incorporate important ethical principles which do not appear or are not stated explicitly in the current version of the Declaration of Geneva. The revision process was carried out with great care and respect for the unique character and significance of this document and with the ultimate objective of ensuring its sustainability in light of modern developments in medicine and medical ethics.

To view the specific amendments that have been suggested by the workgroup, please refer to the [WMA website](#).

We kindly ask you to submit your comments to the WMA secretariat at DoG@wma.net no later than **29 May 2017**. The workgroup will then produce a final revised draft to be considered by the WMA's Ethics Committee and Council at their meetings in Chicago, USA, in October 2017 when a decision will be taken whether to forward the document to the WMA Assembly at the same meeting for adoption.

The document for public consultation may be downloaded [here](#).

Thank you for your consideration and we remain at your disposal should you have any questions or require any further information.

Best regards,

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