Course material

Course:

Ethics in Emergencies

Video:

2d Ethical principles

Concepts (extracted from automatically generated subtitles):

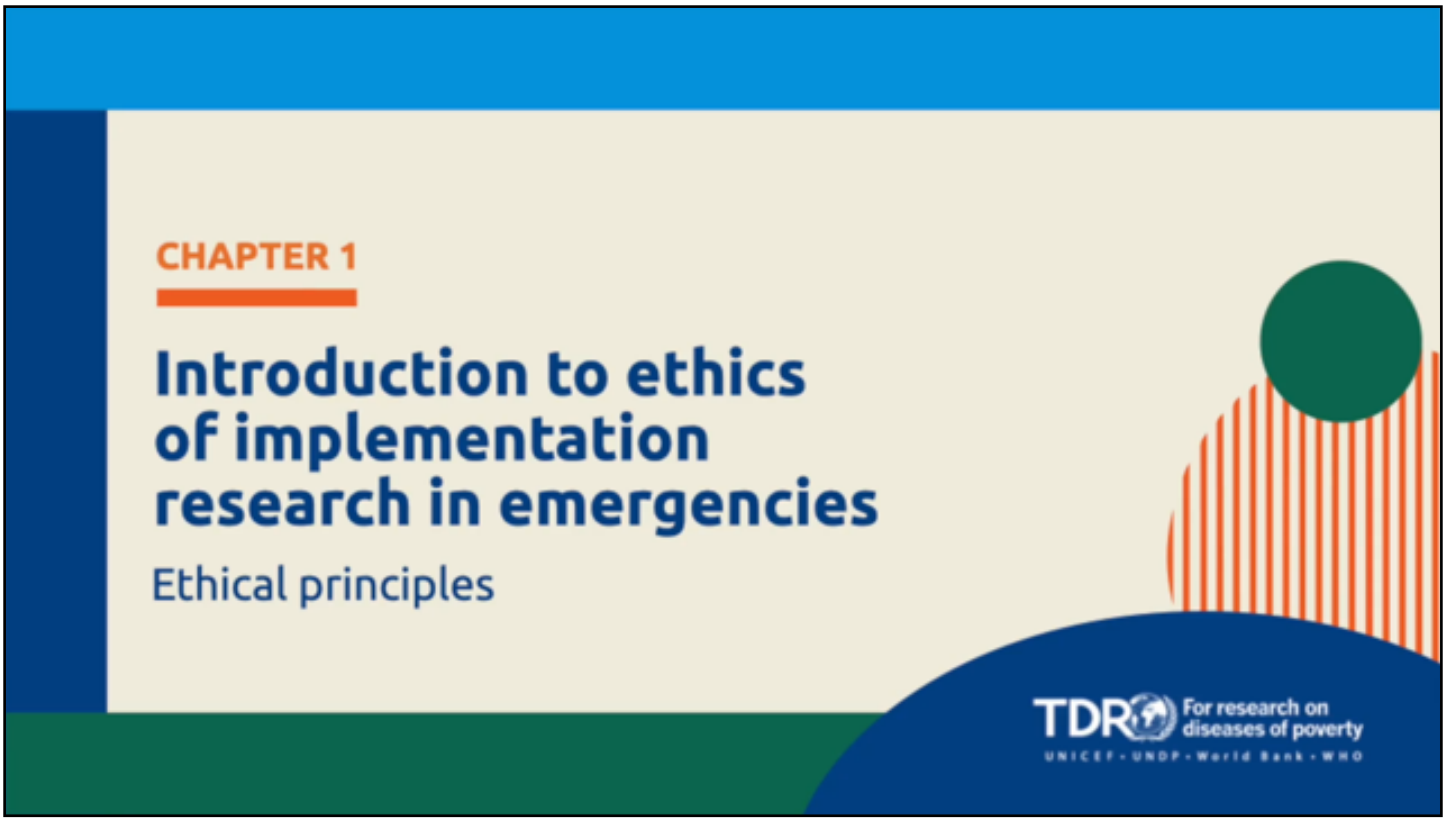
Implementation research project. Implementation research. Ethical imperative. Public health. Ethical standards. Research. Ethical principles. Protection of research participants. Most important goals of implementation research. Ethical implementation research. Ethical conduct of an implementation research study. Emergencies. Following chapters. Timely manner. Community's needs.



to video sequence search
(within Ethics in Emergencies.)



to video

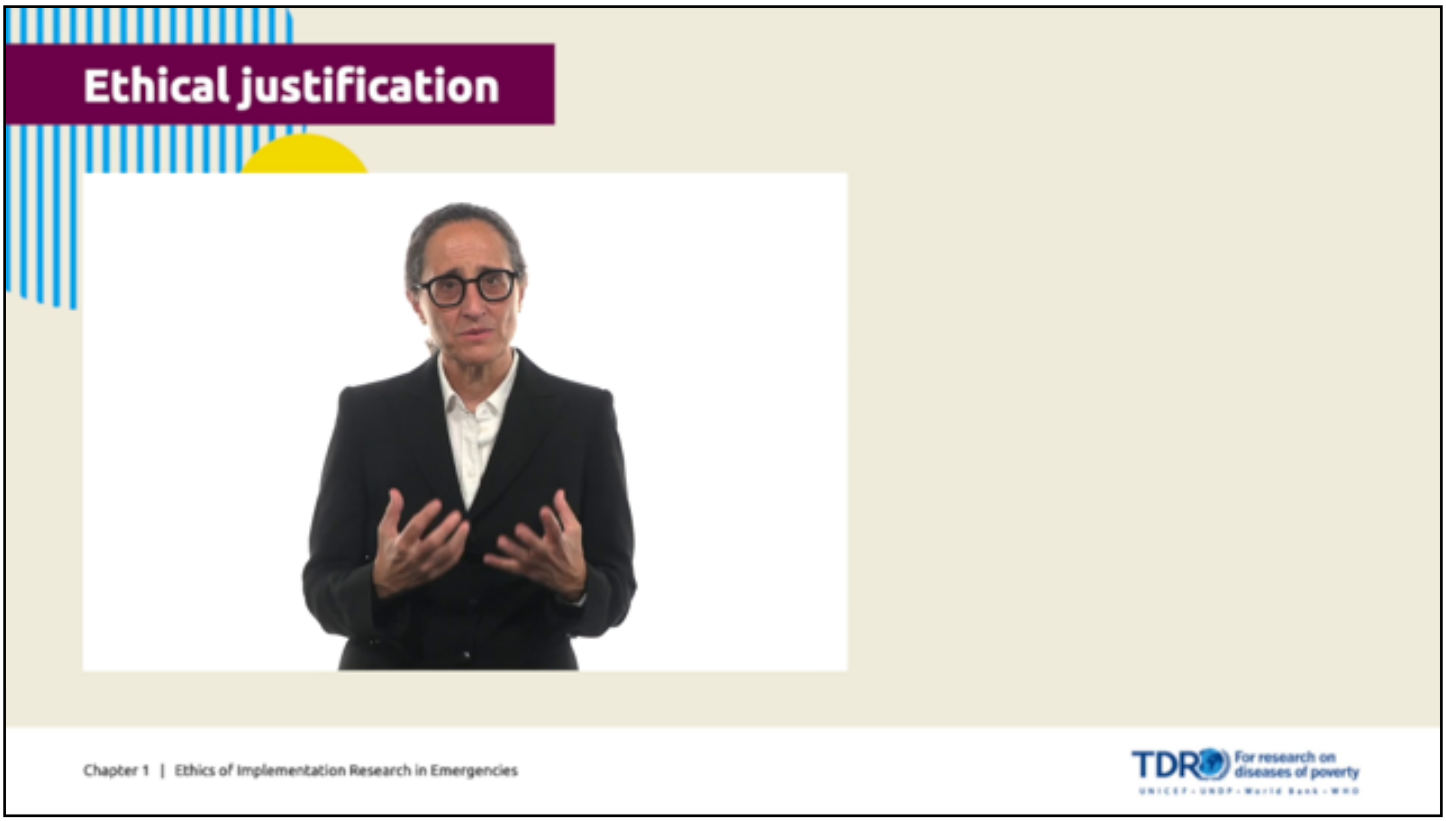


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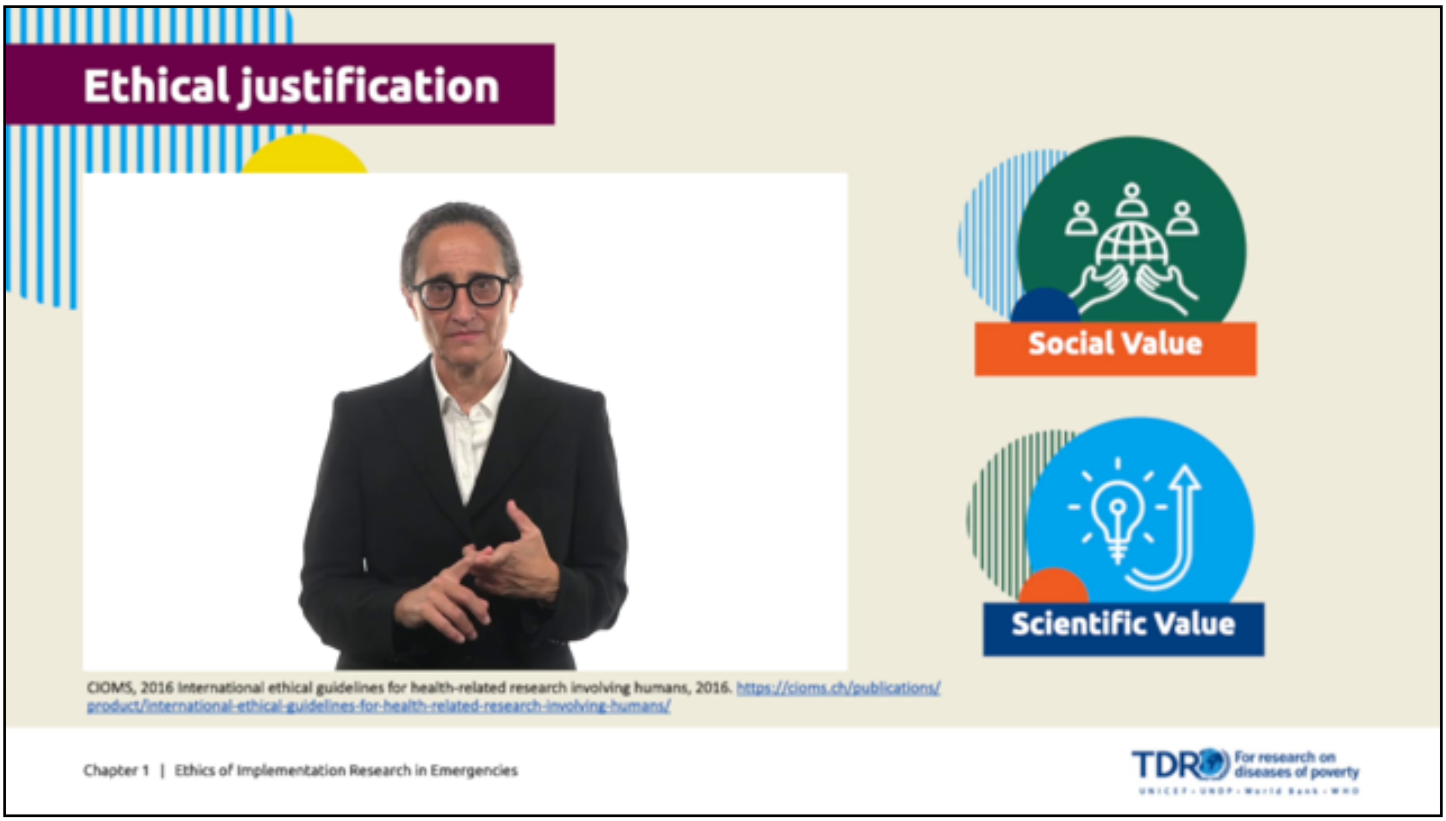


Given the comparatively high stakes during emergencies more than under routine circumstances, it is critical that the precious time and resources allocated to research are spent

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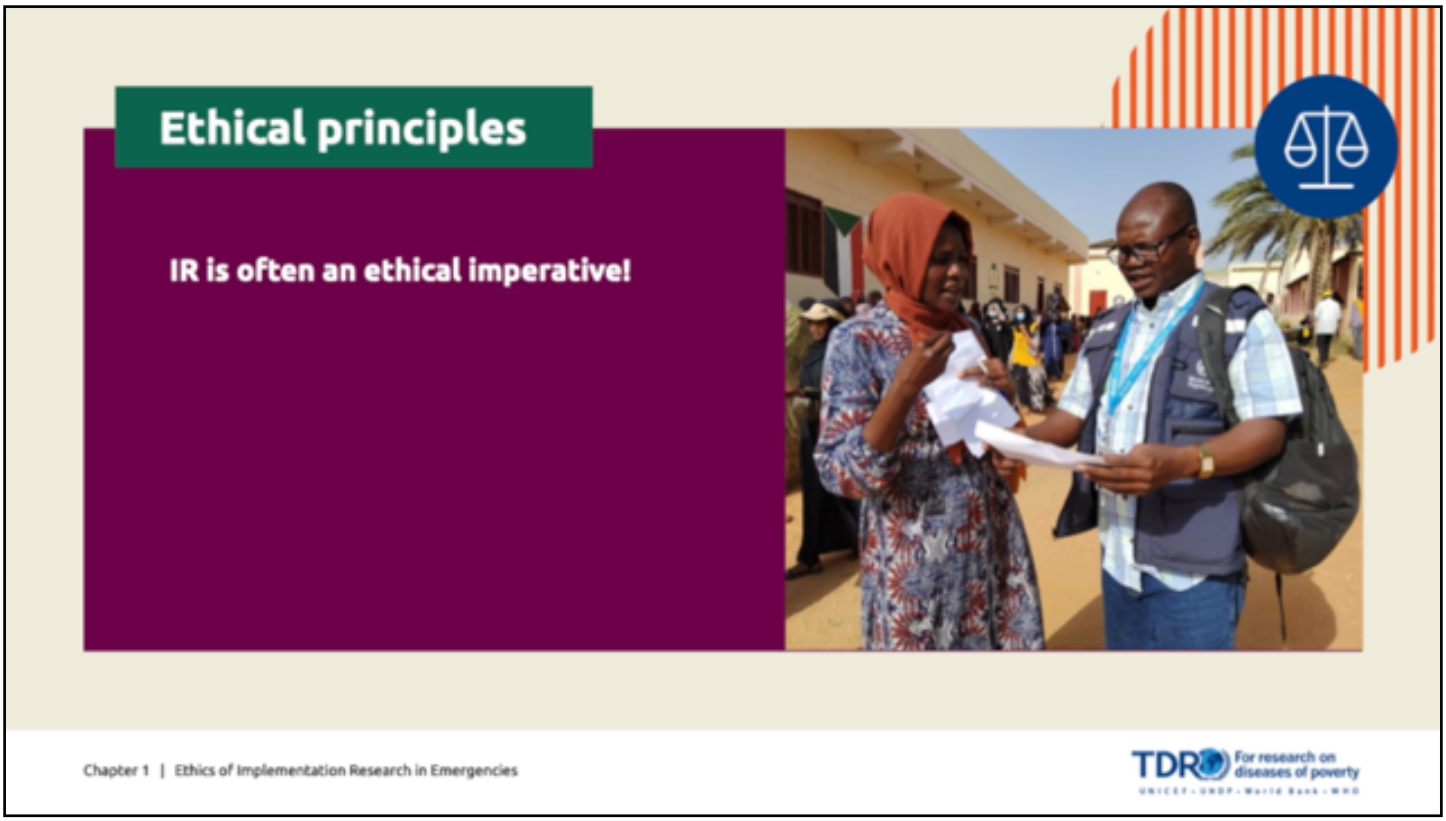


efficiently. For an implementation research project to be ethically justifiable, it must have

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both scientific and social value. This means the study must answer a highly relevant and high priority question for the local population, and be acceptable to that population. As we've discussed already, implementation research is often an ethical imperative in emergencies. It is crucial to recognise, though, that the same ethical standards and principles must be upheld in research conducted during emergencies, as they are when

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research is conducted in normal situations and environments. Broadly, these ethical principles are based upon protection of research participants, which in implementation research may be individuals, communities or institutions. This protection ensures an

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appropriate balance between potential benefit and potential harm, and considers fairness in research

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participation. These principles, and how they apply to implementation research within the

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contexts of individual and public health, will be discussed in detail in the subsequent chapters.

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At this stage, it is clear that scientifically sound and ethical implementation research is important in emergencies. Results are needed in a timely manner so that successful interventions

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can be effectively implemented and scaled up to improve population health. Everyone involved with implementation research in an emergency must be well versed with the principles

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which underlie ethical research and how they may apply in a specific study and context.

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Given that in implementation research, the medical utility of an intervention is already generally known, the contextual relevance is paramount. The most important goals of

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Acceptability and effectiveness



- Acceptability
- Appropriateness
- Affordability
- Feasibility

Proctor E et al. Outcomes for implementation research: conceptual distinctions, measurement challenges, and research agenda. *Adm Policy Ment Health. 2011.* https://doi.org/10.1007/s10488-010-0319-7

implementation research are therefore, to understand the acceptability of an intervention and enhance its effectiveness within a community. This means an intervention must be appropriate,

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Acceptability and effectiveness



- Acceptability
- Appropriateness
- Affordability
- Feasibility
- Scalability
- Sustainability

Proctor E et al. Outcomes for implementation research: conceptual distinctions, measurement challenges, and research agenda. *Adm Policy Ment Health. 2011.* https://doi.org/ 10.1007/s10488-010-0319-7

affordable, feasible, scalable and sustainable. In emergencies, answers to these questions are needed fast, such that effective interventions can be rapidly and equitably implemented and scaled up to reach all the people who may benefit from them.

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As the outcomes of implementation research in emergencies may be very directly relevant to

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Responsibilities



Respect for participants' rights and welfare

CIOMS, 2016 International ethical guidelines for health-related research involving humans, 2016. https://cioms.ch/publications/product/international-ethical-guidelines-for-health-related-research-involving-humans/

people's lives, researchers must be aware of various responsibilities which go hand in hand

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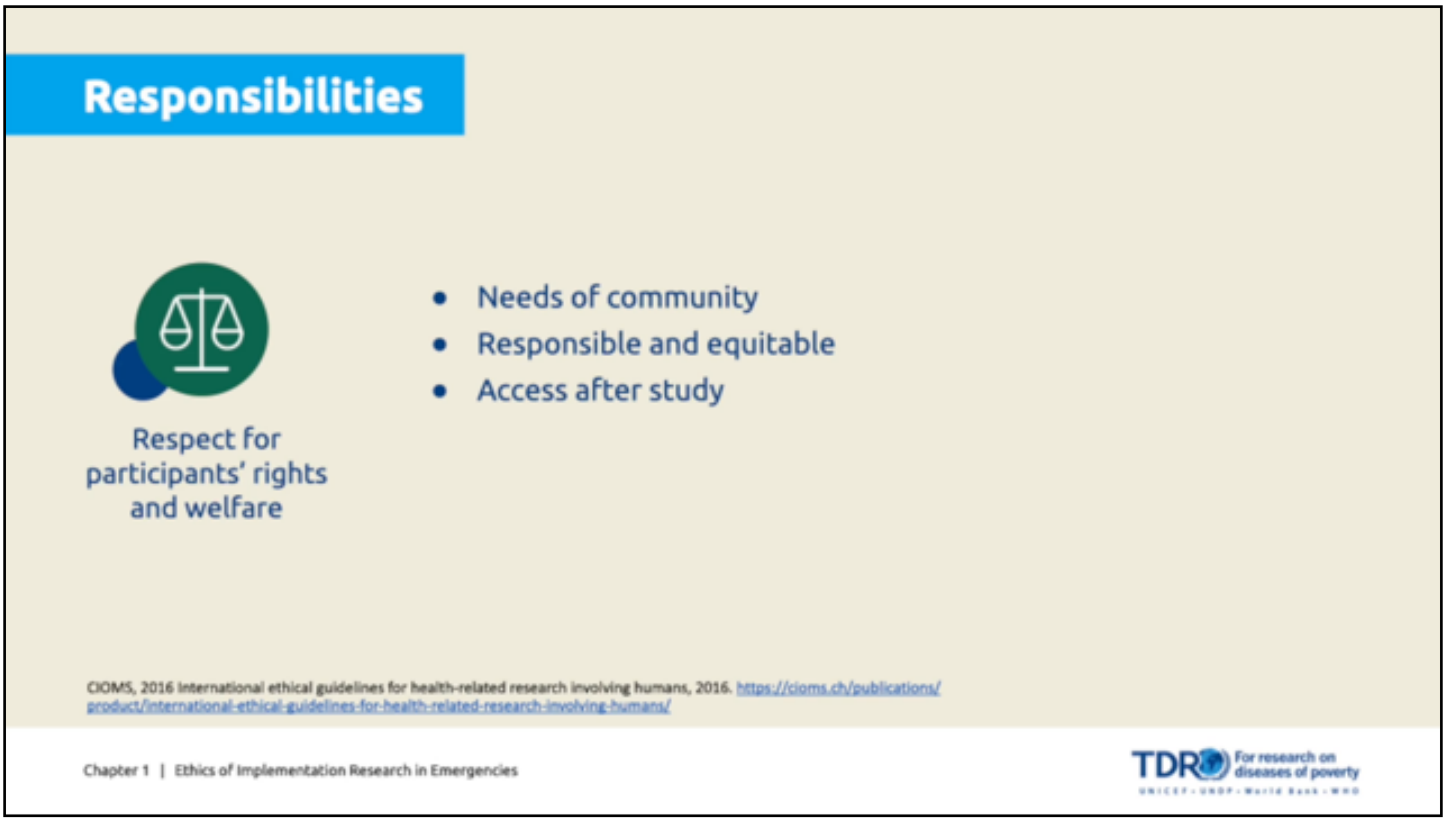


with ethical research. Respect for the participants' rights and welfare is fundamental in

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implementation research. This means that the research must be responsive to the community's needs, is conducted responsibly and equitably, and that the community will have access to any

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successful intervention after the study. Responsible and ethical conduct of an implementation research study therefore hinges on good communication, inclusiveness and trust.

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These may be more challenging to achieve in an emergency. In

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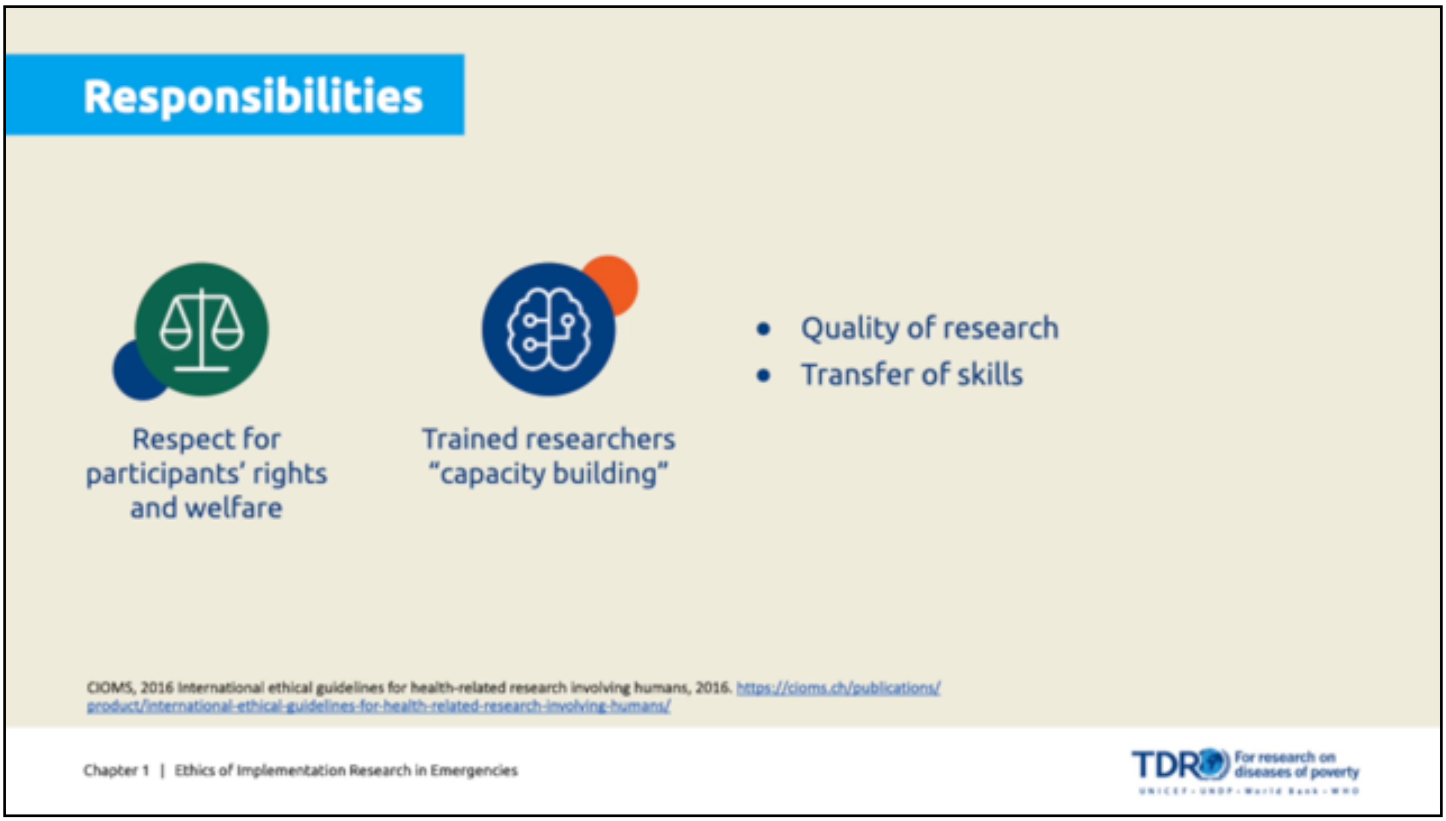


emergencies, implementation research is often carried out by people on the ground who may have limited experience conducting research. Training of these individuals by experienced researchers

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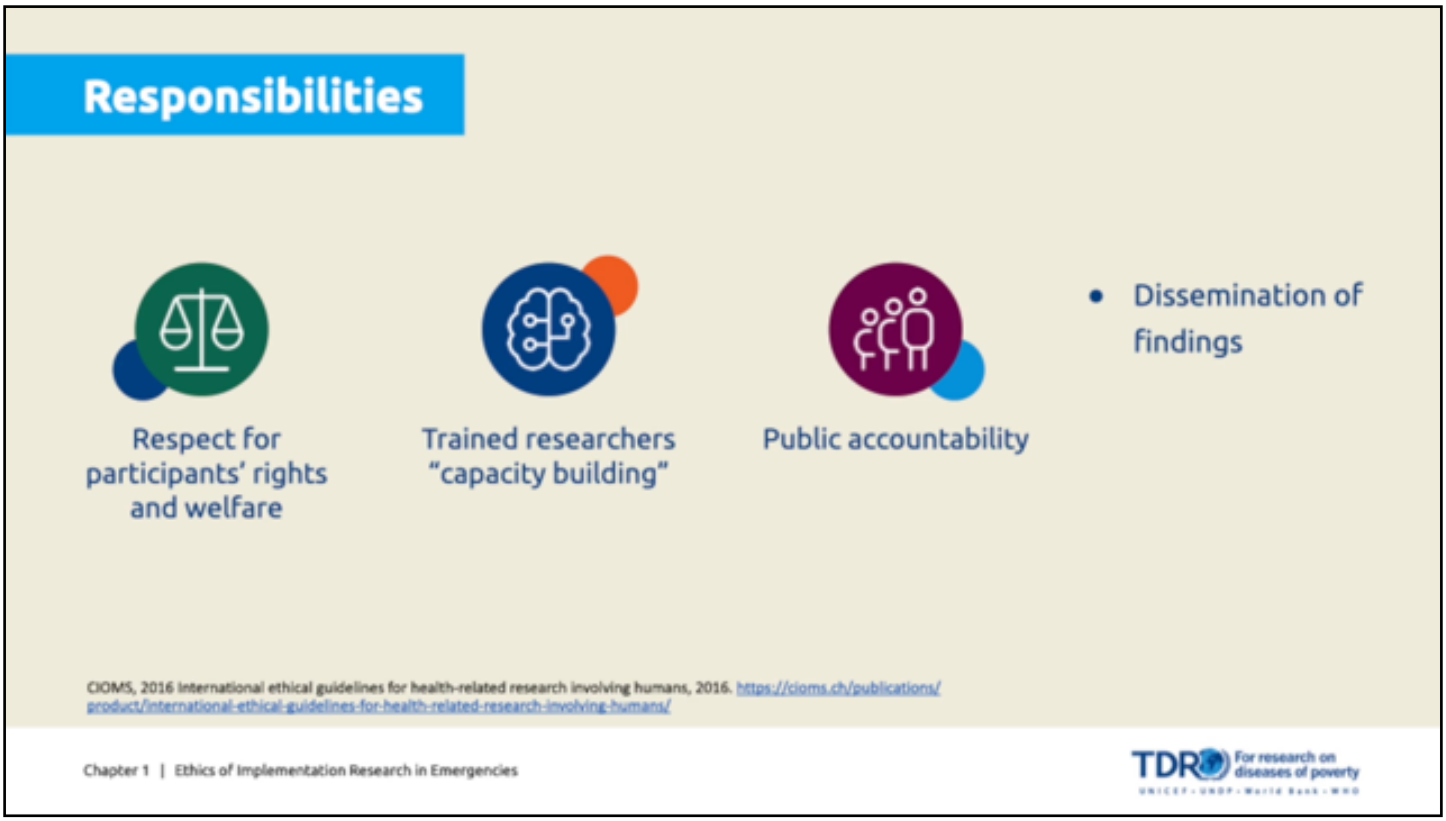


is a responsibility to ensure research quality in real time, and to transfer skills to strengthen

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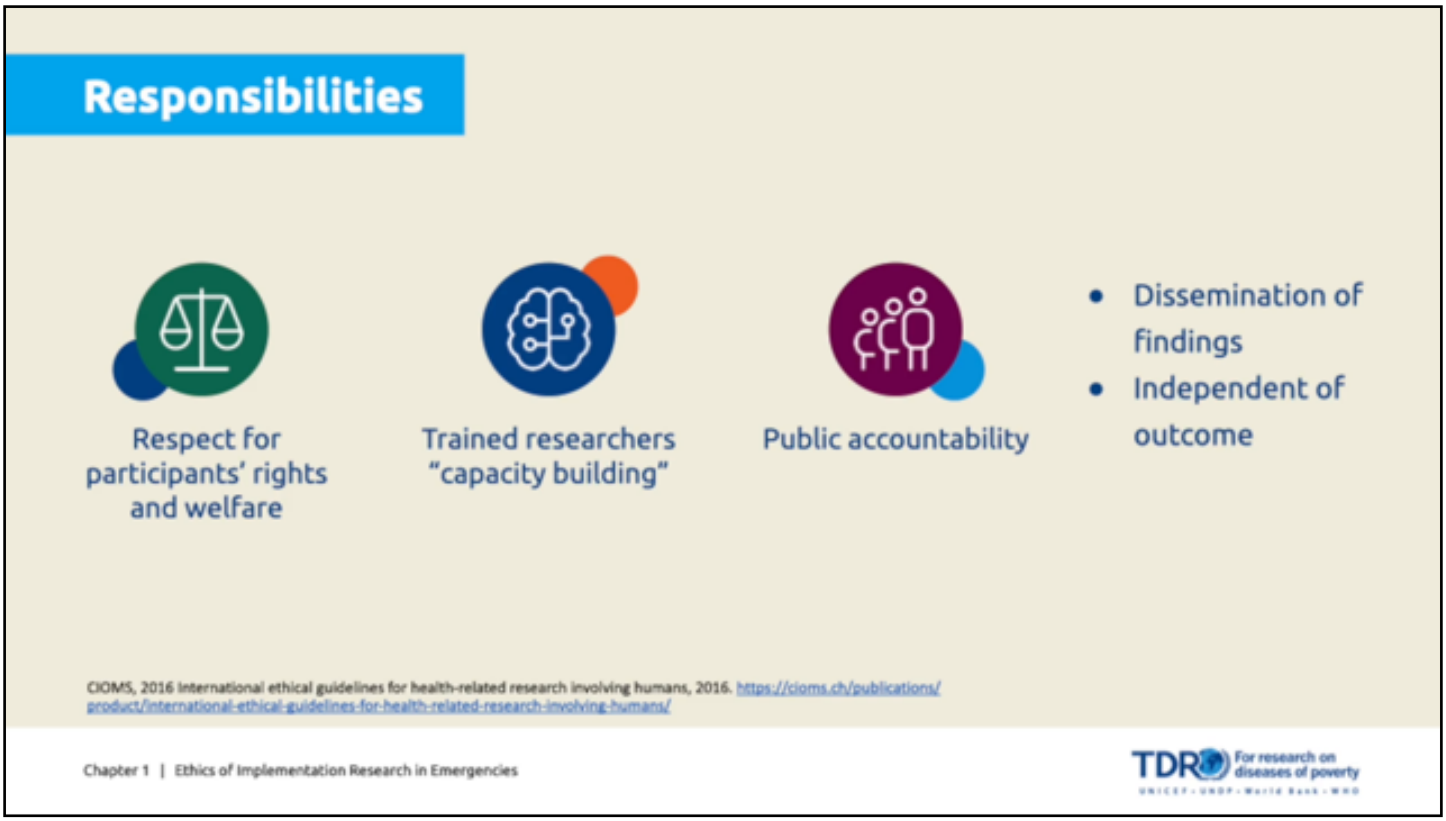


research in future emergencies. Given the urgency of the need for knowledge and the imperative of public accountability in an emergency, researchers are responsible for timely

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dissemination of the research findings, regardless if the outcomes were positive or negative. Broad dissemination is important to share learnings from the study and to avoid repeating

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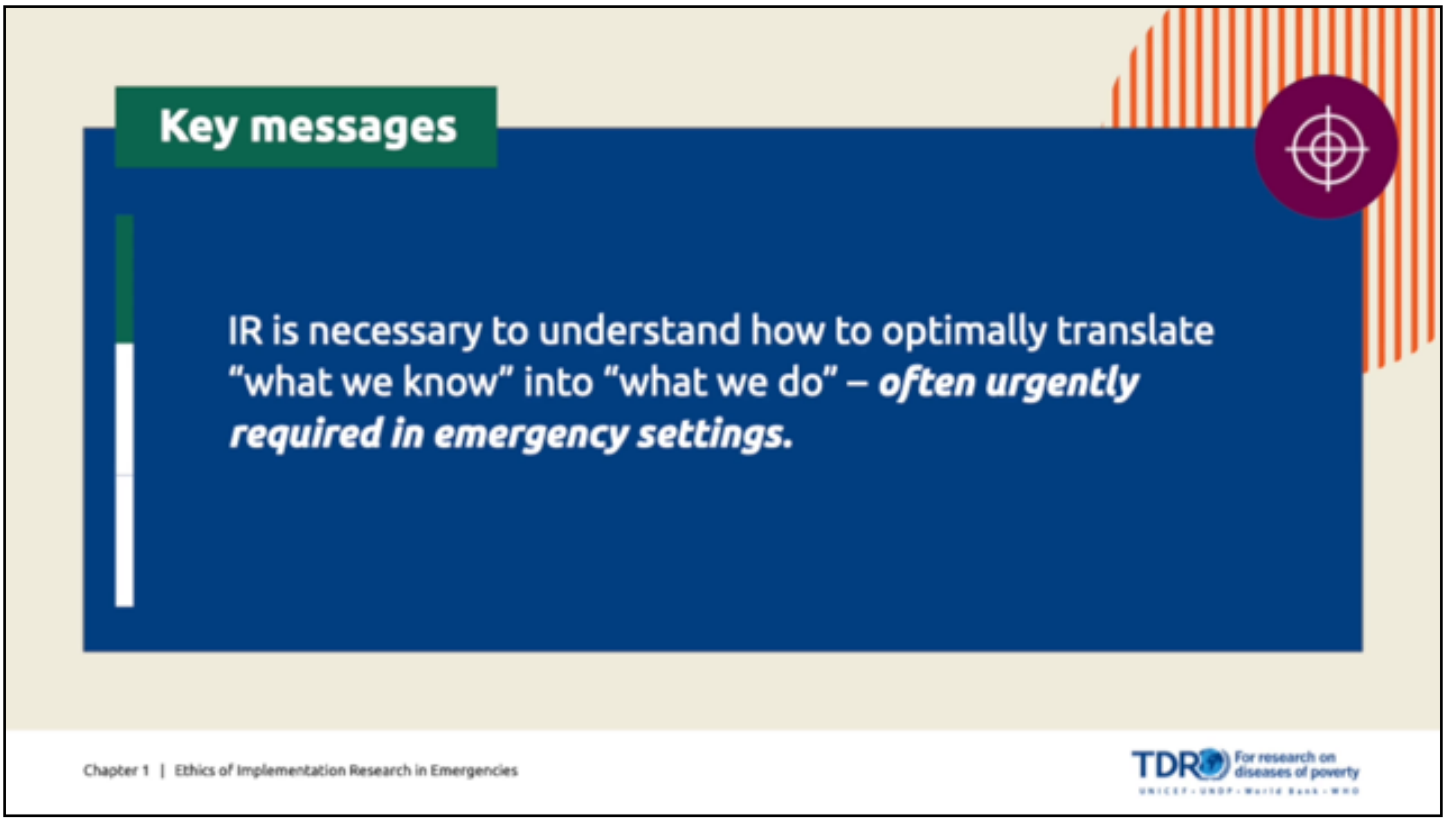


studies unnecessarily. In summary, to recap, the three key take-home

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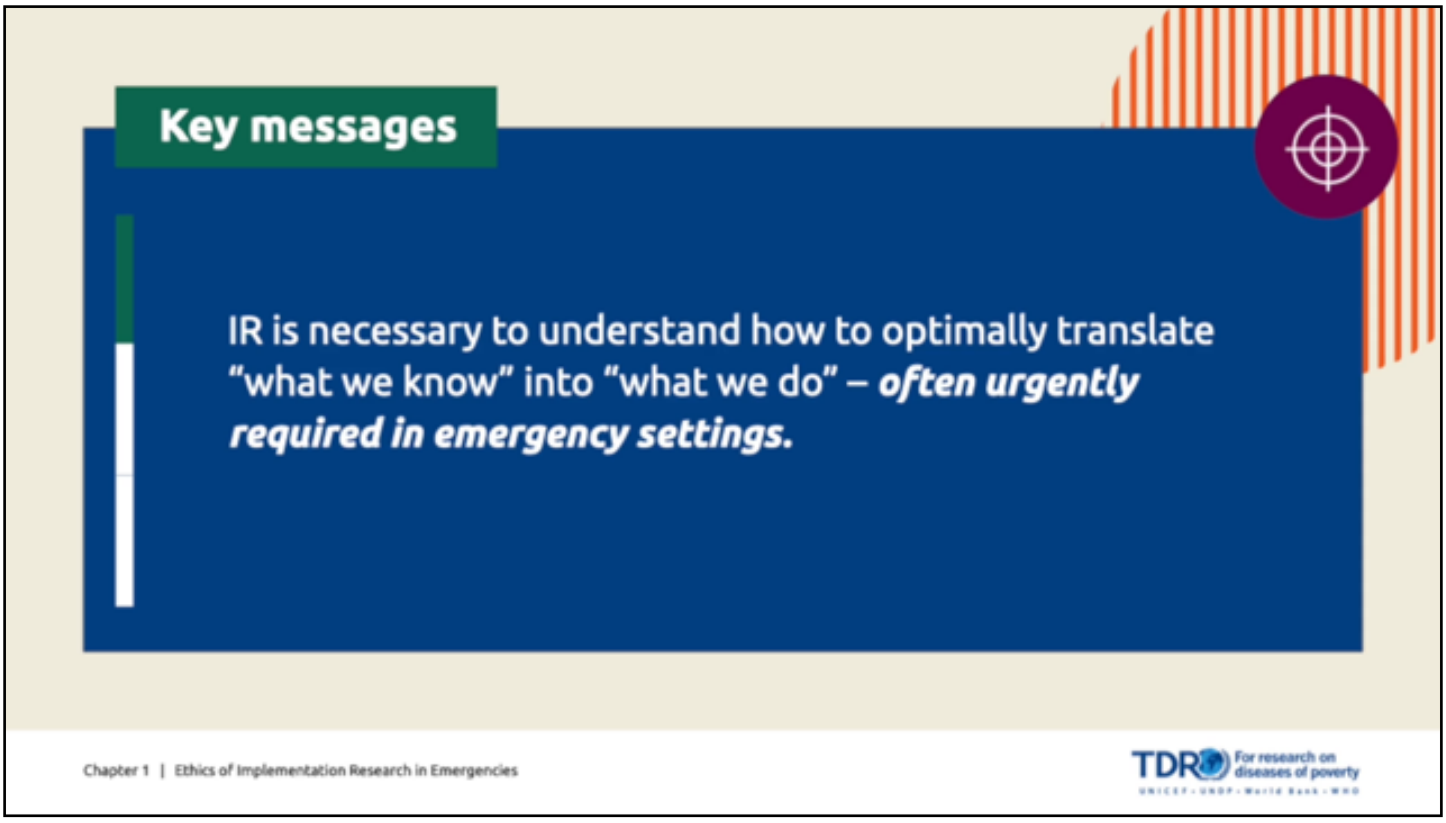


messages from this introductory module to the ethics of implementation research in emergencies

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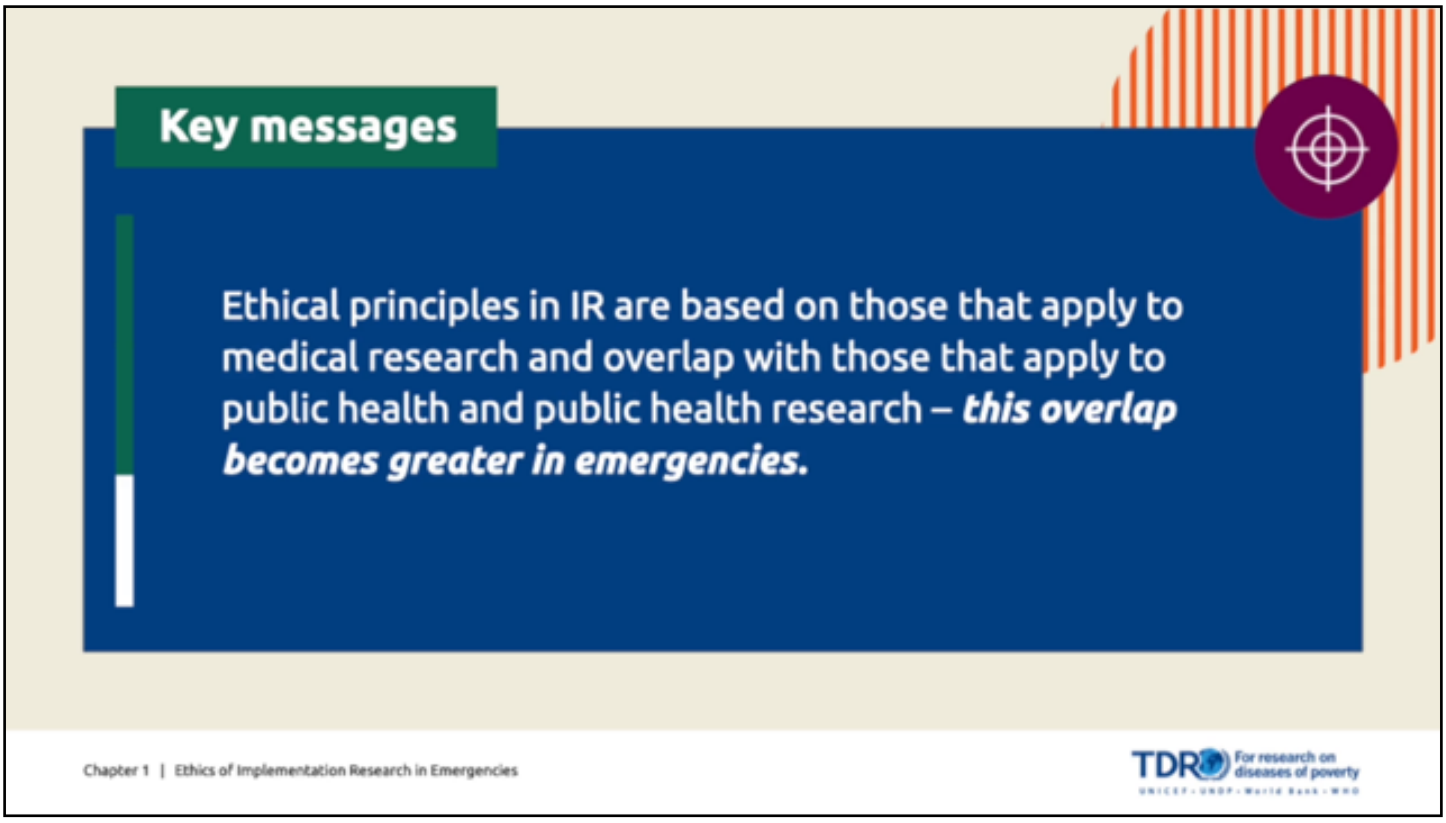


are the following: Firstly, implementation research is necessary to understand how to optimally translate «what we know» into «what and how we do». This includes identifying cultural or contextual barriers to uptake of interventions. Especially in research in emergency settings, it is urgently needed to identify strategies to scale up effective interventions

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that are acceptable to the community. Secondly, the ethical principles of implementation research are based upon those which apply to biomedical research and overlap with those that apply to

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public health and public health research. Given that the lines between research and public health may become more blurred during emergencies, the overlap of the ethical considerations becomes greater in emergencies. And finally, the primary concerns of ethics and

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implementation research in emergencies are to protect research subjects, as well as to generate robust data to support implementation of scalable and sustainable interventions to improve

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population health and/or health systems functioning. Now that we've understood the importance of implementation research and ethics in emergencies, we will proceed in the following chapters to look at the specific ethical implications during the planning, conduct and post- research phases of implementation research in emergencies.

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