



An Ethically Indefensible Plan for Biobanking Consent: A Cautionary Tale from New South Wales, Australia

Dr. Ainsley Newson

**Associate Professor of Bioethics and Deputy Director
Sydney Health Ethics, University of Sydney**

Date: 15 August 2018 (Wednesday)

Time: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Room 402, 4/F, Yasumoto International Academic Park,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin
(5 mins walk from the University MTR Station)

Registration: <https://www.med.cuhk.edu.hk/registration/view.php?id=385611>

All are welcome / Free Admission

Abstract

Biobanking brings special consent issues and challenges. In this seminar, Dr. Newson will critique a recent ‘consent toolkit’ for biobanking in her home state of New South Wales (NSW), Australia. Her talk will begin by explaining the rationale for biobanking in genomics, and key over-arching ethical issues. She will then outline the consent toolkit and some concerns it gives rise to. These include the assumption that consent is enough for ethical biobank governance and the observation that the toolkit strongly hinges on autonomy, but at the same time precludes biobank donors from choosing not to receive incidental research findings. Dr. Newson will discuss the problematic premise and the risk of sustainability of this approach, as well as offer an alternative mode of thinking.

Biography

Dr. Ainsley Newson is Associate Professor of Bioethics and Deputy Director at Sydney Health Ethics, University of Sydney. Ainsley uses methods of theoretical and empirical bioethics to critically engage with novel technologies in genetics and human reproduction.

