Navigating the Ethical Terrain of Collaborative Health Research in Developing Countries

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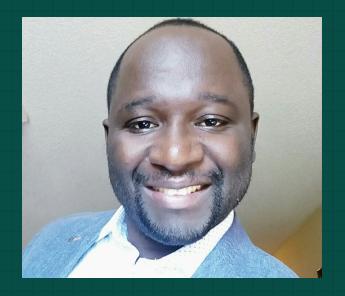
Global North and South have long participated in collaborative health research and partnership.

Northern partners are exclusively the funding or sponsoring partners while the Southern counterparts are the research recipients or hosts. This characteristic dichotomous relationship has persisted in research collaboration and has created a lopsided partnership whereby Northern collaborators are the dominant "big brother" that sets the research priorities and drives research agendas while the Southern counterparts are subservient to the "commands" of the big brother.

But is this still the current trend of research relationships between North and South? Are there ethical changes to the way collaborative research is conducted in low- and middle-income countries?

Dr. Bege Dauda will address these questions by looking at some historical antecedents of collaborative research in developing countries and focusing on contemporary examples of collaborative research in Africa.

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Bege Dauda is a postdoctoral fellow in Advanced Biomedical Ethics at the University of Pennsylvania Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy.

He completed his PhD in Biomedical Science in 2015 at the Centre for Biomedical Ethics and Law, Katholieke University (KU) Leuven, Belgium. His dissertation addressed the ethical aspects of biomedical research in developing countries, with an emphasis on benefit sharing in the conduct of health research.

Prior to his doctoral study, Bege obtained an Erasmus Mundus Master of Bioethics from KU Leuven and a Master in Public Health from Umea University, Sweden.

His postdoctoral research at Penn addresses the ethico-legal challenges and opportunities of benefit sharing in genomic research in Africa, focusing on the H3 Africa initiative.

Bege also has an interest in the ethics of sample sharing and transfer as well as capacity building in research in Low and Middle Income Countries.