

This response was submitted to the consultation held by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics on Give and take? Human bodies in medicine and research between April 2010 and July 2010. The views expressed are solely those of the respondent(s) and not those of the Council.

Jeff McILwain MD FRCS

**Question 21**

Any incentive of any nature is a bribe, irrespective of the end outcome ethical advantage. Encouragement via marketing and advertising is not person specific whereas an incentive is person-specific. Given that a human owns their body and so owns their tissue only the person themselves holds the authority to donate or give. Under the ethical principle of autonomy, which in my mind trumps both utilitarianism & deontology as a higher ethic, only the individual with the right to own and consequent authority has the ethical and legal power as an adult to give that authority to another.

**Question 22**

By the language and demonstrable intent of and within the family which requires direct observation, therefore it is impossible unless language suggests otherwise; e.g. the use of the term "we the family" suggests a collective tribal approach by and for the tribe rather than for the person

**Question 23**

No - beginning with the convention of rights for research post second world war

**Question 24**

as before an adult owns their body - it is their body and so their disease. Only if an adult has authority for another e.g. a child or a person without capacity can they ethically or legally perform such an authority transfer

**Question 25**

A pre-death wish should be complied with. Post-death since there is no ownership, then the pre-death principles stand

**Question 26**

The estate of the deceased

**Question 27**

No