

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.

Mr G. Smith

Nuffield Council on Bioethics

Consultation: Human bodies in medicine and research

Answers to numbered questions from consultation paper (April 2010)

- 10 I approve as stated: altruism, autonomy, dignity  
I reject: maximising health and welfare, reciprocity, solidarity
- 12 There is no moral duty to provide
- 13 There is no moral duty to participate
- 14 It is not right to try to meet demand. The supply should be gratefully received, but no more.
- 15 Regarding first-in-human trials, I approve the current arrangements, as described in the last paragraph of page 18.
- 23 No. In addition, I do not approve the current Research Ethics Committee arrangements which may allow the use of unidentifiable material. No material should be used for research without express consent; with exceptions (forensic, epidemic...)
- 24 In general, no one should be able to make a decision on behalf of somebody else. Where an individual lacks capacity to consent to medical research, I object to the taking of samples, unless the individual may benefit, and the material is used exclusively for the stated purpose, then destroyed.
- 25 Family members should play no part in deciding whether bodily material may be used after death. I do not approve the 'qualifying relationship' of the Human Tissue Act, (page 36).
- 27 No.

- 29 A person providing bodily material should have complete control over its future use. Their wishes, restrictions or waiver should always apply.
- 30 I object to the opt-out approach to the donation of bodily material. I find the notion of presumed consent abhorrent.