Ethics in action: Approving and improving medical research with human subjects

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Jean Philippe de Jong was born on December 28th, 1977 in Rotterdam. He received a Master’s degree in Biomedical Sciences in 2004 at Leiden University, in Philosophy in 2005 at Leiden University and in Medicine (with distinction) in 2011 at the University of Amsterdam.

He has worked in the fields of medical research, medical technology and patient care since 2003, specialising in policy, regulation and ethics. Between 2003-2005, he worked on innovative policymaking at the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports and on oversight on medical devices at the Dutch Healthcare Inspectorate.

In 2005, he started working on a PhD project on ethical oversight on medical research with human subjects at the Academic Medical Center in Amsterdam, section Medical Ethics. The results of this project are described in this thesis. He conducted quantitative and qualitative studies of how ethical oversight, especially by Research Ethics Committees, works in practice. Studies conducted in The Netherlands were complemented by a visiting scholarship at New York University, Department of Philosophy in 2008, in order to study oversight in the United States. As a side-project, he developed a guideline for the Netherlands Cancer Institute concerning the storage and use of patients’ residual (tumour) tissue. At the same time as following his PhD training Jean Philippe studied Medicine at the Academic Medical Center in Amsterdam.

Currently, Jean Philippe works at Exon Consultancy (www.exon-consultancy.com), a knowledge-driven consultancy in the fields of pharmaceuticals, medical technology and healthcare. Exon Consultancy was co-founded by Jean Philippe in 2012. Exon Consultancy helps organisations create value from scientific knowledge, gives insight into new scientific developments and helps set up and manage complex,
public-private projects. Exon Consultancy has for example done work for the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports, Escher Projects, World Health Organization, European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations, and various companies and universities.

In addition, Jean Philippe is a senior trainer at the Argument Factory - Thinking Academy. This is a private institute that provides insight in complex problems through visualisation techniques and that trains professionals in clear thinking.