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CITI certificate essay

Something new that I learned while taking the CITI certification is that patients who volunteered to be “subjects” for the research are protected by Federal law.

For some reason I always wondered why would people sign up for the research when it can possibly kill them or harm them just like they do with animals. Whenever I thought of research on humans I thought of the book/movie “ One flew over the Cuckoo’s nest” when nurse Rathced would perform lobotomies on the people in the ward and how tortured they were. They weren’t protected and they were there because they were supposedly “sick” or “mentaly challenged”, and so, it was quite surprising to find out that people who volunteer in any type of research are protected by law and not just signing their life away. I was once in some sort of research that was about retainers. It happened about 10-12 years ago in Romania. After wearing braces/ retainers that expanded my maxilla I was given a silicone mouth guard that wasn’t on the market officially and it was still in the research/trial process. Little did I know that 7 years later it would require a bimaxillary surgery in order to fix the damage the mouth guard has caused. At the time I was a kid and clueless, the doctor told my mom that it was a revolutionary tool for dentistry and that it will keep my teeth straight and all the good stuff a parent wants to hear.

So it was really a nice surprise to hear that human volunteers are protected and that safety comes first.

