

Ethics Considerations and Status of Resolution

Issue	Resolution
Scientific Validity of the Study	- Multiple review of protocols by an independent scientific review committee - Approval of protocols by US and Chinese Universities' Institutional Review Boards - Protocol changes to be approved by scientific review committee
Benefits to Participants	- US Standards of diagnosis of hematopoietic disease - Increased follow-up after treatment - Technology transfer for workplace monitoring - Early diagnosis of benzene toxicity and removal from workplace - Monetary compensation based on standard practice in China
Appropriateness of Compensation to Participants	Compensation to be based upon level of participation and, to avoid excessive inducement, standard practice in China for similar procedures.
Informed Consent	- Consent forms tailored to type of participation in the study and disease status, e.g., case or control. - Forms to be developed with input of Chinese clinicians and bioethicist.
Confidentiality	Separate password controlled databases for clinical and study-specific research data. Transfer of data between databases requires consent of participant.
Cultural Sensitivity	Questionnaire to determine occupational history and lifestyle information will be developed with input of local Chinese researchers and Chinese bioethicist.
Control of Results	- Independent Scientific Review Committee will review proposed abstracts of presentations and manuscripts for publication. - The investigators will have final control over content and interpretation of published or presented study data.
Benefits to the General Worker Population Exposed to Benzene	- A committee of the central government believes it can use the molecular epidemiology study to justify a lower benzene occupational exposure standard. - Identification of more sensitive biological indicators of exposure to benzene
Other Benefits	- State of the art diagnostic laboratory will remain in Shanghai for future use. - Technology transfer from training of local laboratory technicians - Possible increase in standards for diagnosis and follow-up care for hematopoietic disease - Technology transfer of industrial hygiene monitoring technology & practices