

## Progress and Problems——

### Review and Perspective of the Bioethics Development in China

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(Abstract)

China is an ancient civilized country, the traditional Chinese medicine is based on individual experiences, and the morality of traditional medicine has long history of thousands years. Although modern science/technology and its application in medicine began in the middle of 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the development of modern bioethics in China only started in the later 70's of last century. The author briefly review the arisen and development of modern bioethics in China.

Since the Dolly's publication and the Human Genome Programme Study, modern science/technology and its application in medicine opened a moral Pandora Box with its huge positive and negative consequences. China, with its incredible success of economic growth, it become a huge market for multi-national pharmaceutical companies. And will be the biggest laboratory for biotechnology with its richer genetic resources of plants, animals and human being.

Facing this challenge, China has to strengthen its capacity to deal with all this bioethics issues related to the biomedical and health researches, 1998 the Ministry of Health (MOH) established the National Ethics Committee, with the support of the Ministry of Science and Technology, it goes step by step developed a serious ethical guidelines and regulations: such as The Guidance on Ethical Review of Biomedical Research Involving Human Subject; The Administration of Human Genetic Resources; Ethical Principles of Human Assisted Reproductive Technologies and Regulations on Human Assisted Reproductive Technologies; Ethical Guidance on Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research etc.

After a long time preparation the MOH also issued an Interim Measures for the Administration of Clinic Technique on Human Organ Transplantation in 2006; and than followed by a State Council's Regulations on Human Organ Transplantation; in

2007. However at present most of the ethical issues are guided by Regulations rather than National Laws.

There were many sensitive areas such as Brain Death, Euthanasia Genetic Modified Products which had debated for a long time in China, but no final decision yet.

Following the UNESCO's guide on Establishing Bioethics Committee and the examples of some other countries (such as the France's Comité Consultatif National d'Ethique or the United States President's Council on Bioethics), we would suggest to establish an Ethics Advisory Commission at the State Council to provide advisory services to the policy maker;