Racial Justice and Black Lives in Research: Consider these areas of inquiry -

01 Community Engagement

How do you engage the community?

- Identify barriers to community participation, including fear.
- Plan ways to return findings to the community in a meaningful way.
- Create ongoing communication strategies, including centering black voices.

E.g., if we're talking about lived experiences of Black women in their bodies, methods better leave room for Black women to express that.

02 White Normativity

How do you plan to assess white normativity in Research Design?

- Assess demographic question's added value to research design.
- Evaluate the uniformity in data reporting and limit interference in non-uniform research design.
- Explore epistemologies or methods that are limited based on "standard" set by institution.

E.g., if the methodologists are all white how do we encourage and facilitate BIPOC methodologists?

03 Participant Lived Experiences

How do researchers incorporate participant's lived experiences?

- Acknowledge the effects of lived and historical trauma, do not make assumptions.
- Speak about lived experiences with compassion and sensitivity.
- Acknowledge and validate the connection between trauma and health in the experiences of Black folk.
- Center the joy, celebration, innovation, and genius of Black communities, Black families, and Black parents (e.g., in field of education).

04 Awareness

What is the level of awareness amongst IRB members and researchers?

- Honor and promote recognition of research on Black Lives.
- Recognize that internalized racism and bias can exist among Black researchers and IRB professionals.
- Recognize that POC researchers are often trained in white, cis male spaces.

What additional considerations might you make for training and education?

- Provide multicultural teaching and mentoring across all systems.
- Train IRB members with consideration of diversity in research teams.
- Train research teams in: cultural competence, sound practices for community engagement, methodologies best suited for all participants and communities.

06 Publication and Access

What additional considerations might you think about for publication and access to data?

- Consider the importance of information from a diversity of sources, not just "top-tier" journals.
- Encourage open access research and research repositories.

07 IRB Composition and Committees

What considerations should be made for IRB Composition?

- Revisit that question to find which journals to publish to, which projects to pursue, how to pursue them.
- Encourage research that supports and uplifts participants in some way.

- Do not allow "Gatekeeping" in funding and publication.

E.g. if a funder is not inclusive do not use the justification "the funder approved this study design" as ethical.

https://www.montclair.edu/institutional-review-board/blminresearch/

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