Protecting people who participate in research

CITI Training Study Guide
Research with Protected Populations – Vulnerable Subjects

What determines a vulnerable population?

- Susceptible to coercion or undue influence, for example:
  - Children
  - Prisoners
  - Mentally disabled persons
  - Economically or educationally disadvantaged persons
  - Nursing home patients
  - Patients with incurable diseases
  - Refugees
What determines a vulnerable population?

- Willingness to participate may be unduly influenced by expectation of benefits, or retaliatory response from senior members of a hierarchy
  - Students
  - Prisoners
  - Employees
  - Members of the armed forces

What are the elements of autonomy?

Ability to freely give informed consent

- Mental capacity

- Freedom from control or influence of others, including substantial financial incentives to participate