

Publication

Neuroenhancers, addiction and research ethics

JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)

ID 1470258

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Year 2012

Title Neuroenhancers, addiction and research ethics

Journal Journal of medical ethics

Volume 38

Number 10

Pages / Article-Number 605-8

Keywords Neuroethics, research ethics, neuroenhancement, addiction

In their recent paper in this journal, Heinz and colleagues accuse proponents of cognitive enhancement of making two unjustified assumptions. The first of these is the assumption that neuroenhancing drugs will be safe; the second is that research into cognitive enhancement does not pose particular ethical problems. Heinz and colleagues argue that both these assumptions are false. Here, I argue that these assumptions are in fact correct, and that Heinz and colleagues themselves make several assumptions that undermine their argument. Neuroenhancement does raise several ethical concerns, but safety and research in this area pose no unique difficulties.

Publisher BMJ Publishing Group

ISSN/ISBN 0306-6800

URL <http://jme.bmj.com/content/early/2012/08/10/medethics-2012-100616.abstract>

edoc-URL <http://edoc.unibas.ch/dok/A6070216>

Full Text on edoc No;

Digital Object Identifier DOI 10.1136/medethics-2012-100616

PubMed ID <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22888151>

ISI-Number WOS:000309265500009

Document type (ISI) Comment, Journal Article