

## Topic 4.1.5: More information about risks and safeguards



There are also a few other things you need to know about risks and safeguards. There are some situations where something really stressful happens during research. Or, sometimes, researchers want to learn about how people think or act, and they can't tell participants everything about their research right away.

When researchers don't tell participants everything about the study, it is called deception.

If something really stressful happened or there was deception, it can be important to **debrief**, or talk about what happened after the research study. This can help make sure participants feel better and they know the truth.

Doing the debrief can help participants understand what they did as a research participant. During a debrief, you or someone on your research team can help participants feel better if they were stressed out or confused.

Your team will talk more with you if your study involves deception or think you will need to debrief.



If there are reasons to worry that people in your study might get really hurt—like they are trying a new treatment—your study might have a Data Safety Monitoring Board or DSMB. Your project leader will talk to you about this if your project has one.

Even though you will work hard to keep people safe in research, people can get hurt and unexpected things can happen.



An **adverse event** is when someone is hurt in research. This can be expected or unexpected. For example, someone could get really angry about something during the research. Or, someone could get hurt trying a new activity in research.

It is important to have a plan to make sure you help people in your research study if there is an adverse event. You also need to pay careful attention to how people are feeling and acting during research, so you can stop research activities before something bad happens.

If you think an adverse event happened, talk to your project leader right away.