Secret U.S. Experiments on Humans

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From 1944 through the 1970s, the U.S. government debated, in secret, policies for the use of human subjects in national security research. Most of the internally controversial studies involved atomic, biological and chemical weapons. In this talk Dr. Moreno will sketch some of the incidents described at length in his book, Undue Risk (Routledge 2000). Among the important and surprising revelations: The Atomic Energy Commission coined the term “informed consent” in 1947 and the Pentagon adopted, as top secret, the Nuremberg Code in 1953.

Dr. Moreno is Kornfeld Professor and Director of the University of Virginia’s Center for Biomedical Ethics.

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