Ethics: 5 moral principles

1. Respect for persons and their autonomy
   - Informed consent
   - Withdrawal from participation

2. Beneficence and non-maleficence

3. Justice
   - Assignment to experimental/placebo group

4. Trust
   - Confidentiality

5. Fidelity and Scientific Integrity
   - Deception
   - Debriefing

Deception
   - Commission – deception is necessary
   - Omission – misunderstandings of what is required in the study; experimental ‘extras’ that are not explained to the participants prior the onset of the study

Absolute morality: the ends cannot justify the means; some acts are basically immoral regardless of the consequences they produce

Relative morality: the ends can justify the means; the acceptability of any act depends in part on the benefits that it produces

Animal ethical issues

Costs and benefits; if the benefits outweigh the costs, then the study is ethically justified

Levels of suffering; the suffering of animals should be left minimum