



[Korean]

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Research Ethics Symposium



Understanding DTC-Gene Testing from a Legal Point of View

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In order to ensure the validity of genetic testing, the accuracy of analysis and the appropriateness of interpretation should be guaranteed, so Article 49 of the Bioethics Safety Act and its enforcement rules try to ensure the accuracy of the analysis through the Korean Institute of Genetic Testing Evaluation. But beyond this discipline, the mechanism that ensures the validity of the interpretation from the viewpoint of the subject of the DTC-gene testing is lacking in the Bioethics and Safety Act. It is important to under-

stand the uncertainty of genetic testing and the various meanings of genetic diseases from the viewpoint of the subject, but the genetic communication that makes this possible is currently very scarce. Besides, the lack of explanation of the medical personnel seems to be a serious problem because the uncertainty of the results in the tests related to prevention of a disease is much more amplified than that of the simple diagnosis tests.



The Law of Living Modified Organisms for Tests and Research in Korea

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A wide variety of Living modified organisms (LMOs) have been developed in order to resolve diverse problems facing the human race such as diseases. Consequently, in order internationally to prevent in advance the potential negative effects of LMOs on the human body and the environment, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity (henceforth "Biosafety Protocol") has been adopted and implemented. In order to implement the Biosafety Protocol, South Korea likewise has legislated the Transboundary Movement, Etc. of

Living Modified Organisms Act (henceforth "LMO Act"), which has been effective since 2008. In accordance with this law, LMOs used at research facilities have been classified as those for tests and research, and their biosafety management has been the responsibility of the South Korean Ministry of Science and ICT(MSIT). The MSIT and the National Research Safety Headquarters (NRSH) under the Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology (KRIBB) have performed safety management of LMOs for R&D.

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