



4. RECs have been developed to protect research subjects. Paternalism is defined as an action that overrides a person's autonomy for his or her own good. Some commentators maintain that if subjects are able to give valid informed consent, then RECs should not be paternalistic by rejecting research that poses undue risks to such individuals. The claim to support this position is that competent individuals are in the best position to determine which risks are reasonable for them, hence RECs should not override autonomy by rejecting research that might be acceptable to some individuals. Do you think that RECs should sometimes take a paternalistic position and reject research that might be too risky, even if competent individuals can provide valid consent?