



Max Kasun

Research Professional, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

Bio

BIO

Max Kasun works in the Roberts Ethics Lab and Kim Ethics Lab at Stanford, which use empirical methods to help anticipate, clarify, and resolve ethical issues in modern biomedical research and clinical care. He received his BA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has interests in empirical and normative thought dedicated to increasing scientific understanding and societal appreciation of the nature, experience, and prevalence of mental illness and wellbeing. More broadly, he is interested in moral philosophy (e.g. justice, action, capability, neo-Aristotelianism, and pragmatism), cognitive and affective sciences, and philosophy of mind (e.g. embodiment and personhood). He has co-authored scientific, peer-reviewed articles and other scholarly work investigating ethical issues in research that involves human volunteers (e.g. authentic voluntarism in informed consent (National Institutes of Health; PI: Dr. Laura Weiss Roberts)), psychiatric ethics, medical education, public health, and neuroscience. His most recent contributions to NIH-funded scientific work (National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences; PI: Dr. Jane Kim) have focused on investigating ethical issues encountered in the design, development, and clinical integration of artificial intelligence, e.g., how environmental and cognitive factors shape appraisals of AI tools, clinical judgments, trust, and health decision-making.

Max is a co-author of several chapters in APA's Study Guide to DSM-5-TR (2024) including the chapters on bipolar and related disorders and personality disorders (American Psychiatric Association). He has published work in and provided editorial support for the peer-reviewed journal *Academic Medicine* (Oxford University Press) and for two works on the subject of trauma and crisis and related interventions, including a reference guide for providing mental health care to victims of state atrocity (United Nations, Springer). Previously, he served on leadership teams for the Stanford Mental Health Technology and Innovation Hub and Neurodiversity Project.

Max is currently working on developing a new Special Initiative of the Chair on Mental Health Care for Unhoused and Justice-Involved Persons (see <https://med.stanford.edu/psychiatry/special-initiatives/mhuj.html>). The initiative aims to bring together a community of scholars, public stakeholders, and health care professionals to advance more humane and participatory inquiry and health policy in service of a population that faces profound controversy, health stigma, and scientific neglect. The initiative aims to improve how science is communicated to the public and policy decision-makers and to develop more evidence-based, pragmatic, strengths-based, and trauma-informed approaches to mental health care for unhoused persons, including those who have experienced episodic or cyclical involvement in the criminal and civil justice systems.

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

- B.A., University of Wisconsin-Madison (2016)

Professional

PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

moral philosophy

empirical and normative ethics

cognitive sciences

philosophy of mind

aesthetics

public humanities

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Member, International Neuroethics Society (2019 - present)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Online survey assessing US primary care physicians' attitudes toward AI use in clinical administrative tasks.** *BMJ health & care informatics*
Kim, B., Ryan, K., Kasun, M., Roberts, L. W., Kim, J.
2026; 33 (1)
- **Information, collaboration, regulation: Physician and AI researcher views on ethical considerations in clinical AI integration** *BIG DATA & SOCIETY*
Ryan, K., Kasun, M., Roberts, L. W., Kim, J.
2025; 12 (2)
- **Information, collaboration, regulation: Physician and AI researcher views on ethical considerations in clinical AI integration.** *Big data & society*
Ryan, K., Kasun, M., Roberts, L. W., Kim, J. P.
2025; 12 (2)
- **Users' Perceptions and Trust in AI in Direct-to-Consumer mHealth: Qualitative Interview Study.** *JMIR mHealth and uHealth*
Ryan, K., Hogg, J., Kasun, M., Kim, J. P.
2025; 13: e64715
- **Recognizing the Work and Well-Being of Residency and Fellowship Program Coordinators** *ACADEMIC MEDICINE*
Roberts, L., Kasun, M.
2025; 100 (5): 525-526
- **Academic machine learning researchers' ethical perspectives on algorithm development for health care: a qualitative study.** *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association : JAMIA*
Kasun, M., Ryan, K., Paik, J., Lane-McKinley, K., Dunn, L. B., Roberts, L. W., Kim, J. P.
2023
- **Physicians' and Machine Learning Researchers' Perspectives on Ethical Issues in the Early Development of Clinical Machine Learning Tools: Qualitative Interview Study.** *JMIR AI*
Kim, J. P., Ryan, K., Kasun, M., Hogg, J., Dunn, L. B., Roberts, L. W.
2023; 2: e47449
- **Factors Influencing Perceived Helpfulness and Participation in Innovative Research: A Pilot Study of Individuals with and without Mood Symptoms.** *Ethics & behavior*
Kim, J. P., Tsungmeyer, T., Rostami, M., Mondal, S., Kasun, M., Roberts, L. W.
2022; 32 (7): 601-617
- **Self-reported influences on willingness to receive COVID-19 vaccines among physically ill, mentally ill, and healthy individuals.** *Journal of psychiatric research*

Roberts, L. W., Kim, J. P., Rostami, M., Kasun, M., Kim, B.
2022; 155: 501-510

● **Factors Influencing Perceived Helpfulness and Participation in Innovative Research: A Pilot Study of Individuals with and without Mood Symptoms** *ETHICS & BEHAVIOR*

Kim, J., Tsungmey, T., Rostami, M., Mondal, S., Kasun, M., Roberts, L.
2021

● **Perceived protectiveness of research safeguards and influences on willingness to participate in research: A novel MTurk pilot study.** *Journal of psychiatric research*

Kim, J. P., Ryan, K., Tsungmey, T., Kasun, M., Roberts, W. A., Dunn, L. B., Roberts, L. W.
2021; 138: 200–206