We are pleased to present this volume on ethical aspects of studying behavior in psychiatric and neurological disorders as part of the Current Topics in Behavioral Neurosciences (CTBN) series. We have brought together a collection of chapters that provides both critical reviews of current advances in the field and key analyses of related ethics issues. The volume aims to bridge disciplines of neurobiology and psychology to provide a contemporary overview of the literature relevant to understanding neurobehavior and how ethics informs and reflects on neurobehavioral research. There is dual emphasis on ethical challenges in experimental approaches and in clinical research involving human participants. In essence, the central theme is one of Neuroethics, the field formalized in 2002 that is dedicated to interlocking the excitement of advances in basic neuroscience and clinical neurology with human values and the diversity of our societies.

With the range of topics covered, we hope that the volume will appeal to CTBN’s readership of all behavioral neuroscientists, animal science researchers, clinical scientists, allied health professionals, applied ethicists, and to scholars in the social sciences alike. We also deeply hope that as neuroscience has an impact on and visibility in the daily lives of people in both resourced and under-resourced parts of the world, the volume will serve as a useful resource for early career scientists and scholars who must actively evaluate their research through an ethics lens today more than ever before.

This book has been a collaborative international effort from start to finish. Professor Frauke Ohl had primary responsibility for the first six chapters of the volume on the ethics of using animal subjects for neurobehavioral research, and was assisted by Dr. Franck Meijboom. Postdoctoral Fellow Grace Lee and Professor Judy Illes took the lead on the ten chapters that engage readers in a discourse on ethical issues for neurobehavioral research using human subjects, with a chapter linking pre-clinical and clinical research.

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