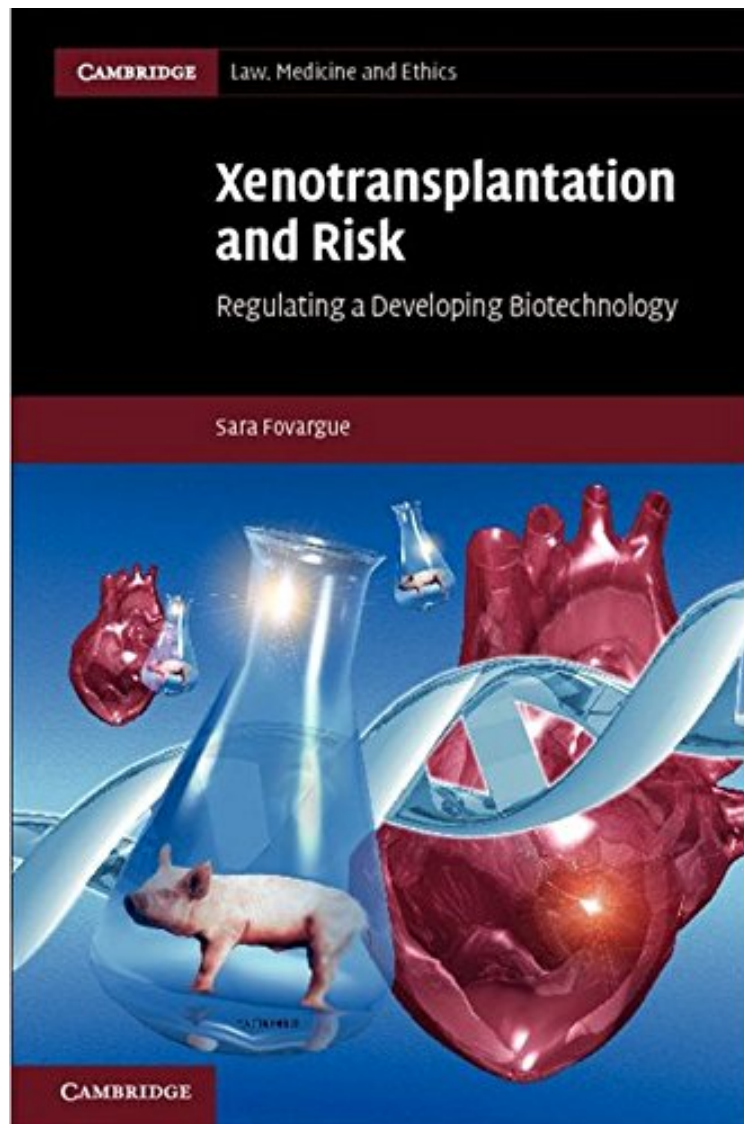


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Xenotransplantation and Risk: Regulating a Developing Biotechnology (Cambridge Law, Medicine and Ethics)

Sara Fovargue

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Some developing biotechnologies challenge accepted legal and ethical norms because of the risks they pose. Xenotransplantation (cross-species transplantation) may prolong life but may also harm the xeno-recipient and the public due to its potential to transmit infectious diseases. These trans-boundary diseases emphasise the global nature of advances in health care and highlight the difficulties of identifying, monitoring and regulating such risks and thereby protecting individual and public health. Xenotransplantation raises questions about how uncertainty and risk are understood and accepted, and exposes tensions between private benefit and public health. Where public health is at risk, a precautionary approach informed by the harm principle supports prioritising the latter, but the issues raised by genetically engineered solid organ xenotransplants have not, as yet, been sufficiently discussed. This must occur prior to their clinical introduction because of the necessary changes to accepted norms which are needed to appropriately safeguard individual and public health.

'This book offers an up-to-date analysis and commentary of the issues pertaining to regulating xenotransplantation. Fovargue writes in a lucid, straightforward manner, without compromising on myriad complexities that surround xenotransplantation.' Nishat Hyder, Law, Innovation and Technology
About the Author Sara Fovargue is a Senior Lecturer in Law at Lancaster University, where she specialises in health care law and ethics. Her main interests are clinical research involving human and non-human animals, risk and regulation with regards to developing biotechnologies and decision-making practices for vulnerable groups within health care law and practice.