**Research Involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples**

As part of the HNELHD’s commitment to Closing the Gap, the Hunter New England Human Research Ethics Committee (HNEHREC) seeks to facilitate the involvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in research. At the same time the HNEHREC has a responsibility to ensure the research is culturally sensitive and safe for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants and respectful of their contribution, in the way the data is managed and results of the research are shared and reported to participating Aboriginal Communities.

Therefore Ethics Applications for all research targeting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as participants, must include a statement addressing the following criteria of as part of the submission for ethics review. Please note this is the same criteria that the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council Human Research Ethics Committee require be addressed for their submissions.

1. **Net Benefits for Aboriginal people and communities: (Guidance***: It must be demonstrated that the research will advance scientific knowledge and result in a demonstrated net benefit for the health of Aboriginal people and communities.)*
2. **Aboriginal Community Control of Research: (Guidance:** *There is Aboriginal community control over all aspects of the proposed research including research design, ownership of data, data interpretation and publication of research findings.)*
3. **Cultural Sensitivity: (Guidance**: *it must be demonstrated that the research will be conducted in a manner sensitive to the cultural principles of Aboriginal society.)*
4. **Reimbursement of costs: (Guidance:** *Aboriginal communities and organisations will be reimbursed for all costs arising from their participation in the research process.)*
5. **Enhancing Aboriginal skills and knowledge: (Guidance:** *It must be shown that the project will utilise available opportunities to enhance the skills and knowledge of Aboriginal people, communities and organisations that are participating in the project.)*

**A template for the statement is on page three.**

For assistance in completing this statement please consult:

National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans (NH&MRC, 2007) <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/e72>

* Values and Ethics: Guidelines for Ethical Conduct in Aboriginal and Torres Island Health Research (NH&MRC, 2003) <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/e52>
* Ten principles relevant to health research among Indigenous Australian populations, Lisa M Jamieson, Yin C Paradies, Sandra Eades, Alwin Chong, Louise Maple-Brown, Peter Morris, Ross Bailie, Alan Cass, Kaye Roberts-Thomson and Alex Brown Med J Aust 2012; 197 (1): 16-18. <https://www.mja.com.au/journal/2012/197/1/ten-principles-relevant-health-research-among-indigenous-australian-populations>
* NSW Aboriginal Health Information Guidelines (1998) <http://www.ahmrc.org.au/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=22&Itemid=45>
* The NSW Aboriginal Health Impact Statement and Guidelines (2011) <http://www0.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/aboriginal/impact_sment.asp>
* Keeping Research on Track : A guide for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples • about health research ethics (NH&MRC, 2005) • <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/e65>
* The NHMRC Road Map II: A Strategic Framework for Improving Aboriginal and Torres • Strait Islander Health Through Research (2010) • <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/r47>
* Why an Aboriginal Ethical Perspective is Necessary for Research into Aboriginal Health (AH&MRC Paper, written by Mundine, Edwards, & Williams, May 2001) <http://www.ahmrc.org.au/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=22&Itemid=45>
* CRIAH Tools for Collaborative Research (December 2007). <http://www.saxinstitute.org.au/researchassetsprograms/CRIAHToolsforCollaboration.cfm?objid=706>
* Guidelines for Ethical Research in Indigenous Studies (Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) 2011) <http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/research/docs/ethics.pdf>

**AH&MRC Guidelines for Research into Aboriginal Health Key Principles (Revised 2013)** [**http://www.ahmrc.org.au/media/resources/ethics/ethics-application-resources/271-ah-mrc-guidelines-for-research-into-aboriginal-health-key-principles-1/file.html**](http://www.ahmrc.org.au/media/resources/ethics/ethics-application-resources/271-ah-mrc-guidelines-for-research-into-aboriginal-health-key-principles-1/file.html)

**KEY PRINCIPLES TO BE ADDRESSED IN ETHICS APPLICATIONS TO THE**

**HUNTER NEW ENGLAND HUMAN RESEARCH EHTICS COMMITTEE FOR**

**RESEARCH INVOLVING ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PARTICIPANTS**

**Title of Project:**

**Chief Investigator:**

The above project will/may be recruiting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Participants and so the following Statement is provided to ensure the Cultural appropriateness of the research and cultural safety of the participants.

1. **Net Benefits for Aboriginal people and communities: (Guidance***: It must be demonstrated that the research will advance scientific knowledge and result in a demonstrated net benefit for the health of Aboriginal people and communities.)*
2. **Aboriginal Community Control of Research: (Guidance:** *There is Aboriginal community control over all aspects of the proposed research including research design, ownership of data, data interpretation and publication of research findings.)*
3. **Cultural Sensitivity: (Guidance**: *it must be demonstrated that the research will be conducted in a manner sensitive to the cultural principles of Aboriginal society.)*
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