

Governance

Advisory/Management Committees



HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

Establishment

<i>When:</i>	13 November 1981 2015 established as sub-committee of University Research Committee
<i>By what authority:</i>	The University Council
<i>For what period:</i>	Ongoing

Role

<i>Nature:</i>	To protect the welfare and rights of participants in research. It must ensure the effective consent of research participants in a research project and that any risk which may be involved is acceptable.
<i>Terms of Reference:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">to apply the ethical principles and values set out in the <i>National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007)</i>, the <i>National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Values and Ethics - Guidelines for Ethical Conduct in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research</i>, as well as other guideline papers published from time to time by the NHMRC;to cooperate closely with the Australian Health Ethics Committee (AHEC), a principal committee of the NHMRC;to consider the ethical implications of proposed research projects on human participants and to determine whether or not they are acceptable on ethical grounds;to provide surveillance of research projects until completion so that the Committee may be satisfied that they continue to conform with approved ethical standards;to maintain a record of all proposed and approved research projects.
<i>Reporting line:</i>	The Committee reports to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research) and the University Research Committee.
<i>Quorum:</i>	<p>The minimum membership required is eight members in the categories specified in Section 5.1.30 of the <i>National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007)</i>.</p> <p>Where there is less than full attendance of the minimum membership at a meeting, the Chairperson should be satisfied, before a decision is reached, that the views of those absent who belong to the minimum membership have been received and considered.</p>
<i>Procedures prescribed:</i>	As per the requirements in Section 5.1.37 of the <i>National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007)</i>

Frequency of meetings: Seven meetings per annum.

List of any sub-committees/review groups: Review Groups to consider low risk research ethics applications are established in the Faculties of Arts and Professions and the Faculty of Health Sciences. A Subcommittee in the School of Psychology is also established to consider low risk ethics applications.

Membership

Any categories prescribed: Composition of the Committee is prescribed as per Section 5.1.29 to 5.1.33 of the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007)*.

Alternate members can be called upon to attend a meeting as may be required. These individuals are members of other established NHMRC registered HRECs and have expertise in the relevant membership category.

Term of Office: Up to 3 years with the option of extending the term.

Members are nominated through the HREC Convenor and are appointed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research). Nominations are made to fill vacancies as required.

Attendance

The Committee may invite or co-opt any person to attend or participate or both in any of its meetings. Such persons shall not be eligible to vote.

The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor and president are ex-officio members of all Committees of Council and the Vice-Chancellor and President is an ex-officio member of all Committees of the University

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