

ETHICS IN RESEARCH INVOLVING ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE

Where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are the main participants, or are likely to be a significant proportion of participants, a statement addressing the principles outlined in chapter 4.7 of the *National Statement* must be attached to the Ethics Application.

The statement should be set out under the headings from the *National Statement*:

- Research merit and integrity,
- Justice,
- Beneficence,
- Respect.;

The statement should identify how the specific requirements of the *National Statement* under each of these themes will be met.

Researchers must include in their statement an outline of how they will respect the wishes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with regard to

- publication,
- the identification of individuals,
- the use of photographs or videos,
- the storage of research materials,
- the immediate and foreseeable use of all cultural material (including possible future publications).

The aim is to:

- take account of cultural sensitivities and protocols.
- provide for appropriate participation in the design and development of the research (eg an appropriate reference group to advise on the research project).
- ensure consultation, including advice from appropriate elders / traditional owners.
- offer informed consent in a culturally appropriate way.
- establish anonymity and confidentiality in culturally appropriate ways.
- recognise indigenous expertise and resources.
- ensure that participants (and wherever relevant their communities) have a clear understanding of the research process (including the collection and analysis of data).
- ensure that there is clear agreement concerning the ownership and publication of material.
- ensure clear understanding of potential benefits and risks.
- provide feedback in an accessible manner (usually before publication occurs).
- facilitate outcomes that are useful for indigenous people.
- establish processes for ongoing communication, negotiation and review of the research.
- ensure that there is overall transparency in researchers' dealings with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.