



Human Research Ethics Committee: Standard Conditions of Approval

- a) Approval from the Murdoch University Human Research Ethics Committee confirms that this project meets the requirements of the NHMRC's National Statement (2023)
- b) The project must be conducted in accordance with the approved application, including any approved conditions and amendments, and any subsequent conditions that the HREC may require.
- c) Anything which might affect the ethical acceptance of your project must be reported promptly, including:
 - *Adverse effects on participants*
 - *Significant unforeseen events*
 - *Other matters that may impact the ethical acceptability of the project.*
- d) Proposed changes or amendments to the research must be applied for and approved by the HREC before these may be implemented.
- e) An Annual Report must be provided by the due date specified each year (usually the anniversary of approval).
- f) A Closure Report must be provided at the conclusion of the project (once all contact with participants has been completed).
- g) If, for any reason, the project does not proceed or is discontinued, you must advise the committee in writing, using a Closure Report form.
- h) The approval is given has a lifespan of 4 years. Once the 4 years is up the Chief Investigator is required to submit a renewal resubmission.
- i) If an extension is required beyond the end date of the approved project, an Extension Application should be made allowing sufficient time for its consideration by the committee. Extensions of approval cannot be granted retrospectively.
- j) The HREC must be advised promptly, in writing, if any complaint is made about the conduct of the project.
- k) Other Murdoch approvals (e.g. fieldwork approval) or approval from other institutions may also be necessary before the research can commence.
- l) Any equipment used must meet current safety standards. Purpose-built or modified equipment must be tested and certified by independent experts for compliance with safety standards.
- m) Research Ethics & Integrity must be notified of any changes to contact details including address, phone number and email.
- n) Graduate research degree candidates should also have Program of Study approval prior to commencing the research. Exceptions must be approved by the HREC.
- o) The HREC may conduct random audits and / or require additional reports concerning a research project.
- p) Any external hard drives (such as thumb drives or flash drives) storing research data must be password protected.

Failure to comply with the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2023)* and with the conditions of approval may result in the suspension or withdrawal of approval for the project.

The HREC seeks to support researchers in achieving strong results and positive outcomes.

The HREC promotes a research culture in which ethics is considered and discussed at all stages of the research.

If you have any issues you wish to raise, please contact Research Ethics & Integrity in the first instance.