HDR Supervisor Induction
Research Integrity, Ethics and Hazardous Materials
Amy Bowater, Team Lead Ethics
Date 11/02/2020
RESPONSIBILITIES OF RESEARCHERS
Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018

**R14** Support a culture of responsible research conduct at their institution and in their field of practice.

**R15** Provide guidance and mentorship on responsible research conduct to other researchers or research trainees under their supervision and, where appropriate, monitor their conduct.

**R16** Undertake and promote education and training in responsible research conduct.

**R17** Comply with the relevant laws, regulations, disciplinary standards, ethics guidelines and institutional policies related to responsible research conduct. Ensure that appropriate approvals are obtained prior to the commencement of research, and that conditions of any approvals are adhered to during the course of research.

**R18** Ensure that the ethics principles of research merit and integrity, justice, beneficence and respect are applied to human research.

**R19** Engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and respect their legal rights and local laws, customs and protocols.

**R20** Ensure that the 3Rs (Replacement, Reduction and Refinement) are considered at all stages of research involving animals and minimise the impacts on animals used in research and in so doing support the welfare and wellbeing of these animals.

**R21** Adopt methods appropriate to the aims of the research and ensure that conclusions are justified by the results.

**R22** Retain clear, accurate, secure and complete records of all research including research data and primary materials. Where possible and appropriate, allow access and reference to these by interested parties.

**R23** Disseminate research findings responsibly, accurately and broadly. Where necessary, take action to correct the record in a timely manner.

**R24** Disclose and manage actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest.

**R25** Ensure that authors of research outputs are all those, and only those, who have made a significant intellectual or scholarly contribution to the research and its output, and that they agree to be listed as an author.

**R26** Acknowledge those who have contributed to the research.

**R27** Cite and acknowledge other relevant work appropriately and accurately.

**R28** Participate in peer review in a way that is fair, rigorous and timely and maintains the confidentiality of the content.

**R29** Report suspected breaches of the Code to the relevant institution and/or authority.
Research Integrity Office Staff

- **Responsible Conduct of Research**
  Manager Research Integrity: Dr Catherine Gangell

- **Human Research Ethics**
  Team Leader Ethics: Amy Bowater
  Clinical Trials Advisor: Anneli Robbshaw
  Senior Research Services Officer: Gillian Kirk
  Research Services Officers: Diana Della Costa, Heather Johnson, Pam Lee, Stephanie Holmquest

- **Animal Research Ethics**
  Team Leader Ethics: Amy Bowater
  Senior Research Services Officer: Gillian Kirk

- **Animal Welfare**
  Animal Welfare Officers: Dr Tara Pike, Dr Emily Barrick

- **Animal Facility**
  Manager Animal Facility: Dr Beng Chua
  Animal Technicians: Kodee King, Carolyn Doyle

- **Hazardous Materials**
  Biosafety and Defence Trade Control: Dr Bernadette Bradley
  Radiation Safety: Tim Finney
Legislation

- Radiation Safety Act
- Gene Technology Act
- Biosecurity Act
- Defence Trade Controls Act
- Animal Welfare Act
- National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research
- Australian Code for the Care and use of Animals for Scientific Purposes
- Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research
Policies and procedures

There are a number of policies and procedures that outline how to do ethical research at Curtin.

https://policies.curtin.edu.au/findapolicy/index.cfm
Research Integrity Training

- All researchers at Curtin University must conduct research in accordance with the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research.
- Training is provided on-line:
  - iPerform for Staff
  - Blackboard for Students
- Research Integrity Manual
- Research Integrity Advisers
Research Initiation Guide

Online at https://rig.curtin.edu.au/
Human Research Ethics

- Human research is conducted with or about people, or their data or tissue.
  - Taking part in surveys, interviews or focus groups
  - Undergoing psychological, physiological or medical testing or treatment
  - Being observed by researchers
  - The collection and use of participants’ body organs, tissues, fluids or exhaled breath
  - Researchers having access to the participants’ personal documents or other materials
  - Access to participants’ information as part of an existing published or unpublished source or database

ROC-ethics@curtin.edu.au or 9266 9223

All human research ethics enquiries
Key Principles of Human Research

- Respect for human beings
- Research merit and integrity
- Justice
- Beneficence

Chapter 1.1 of the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research
Human Research Ethics Application Workflow

Application submitted

Negligible risk
- Review by Research Services Officers (Ethics)
  - 1-2 weeks

Low risk
- Review by a School/Faculty reviewer
  - 4-5 weeks

Non-Low risk
- Review by a Team Lead (Ethics)
  - 7-8 weeks
- Advisory Committee
  - 11-12 weeks
  - Already Peer reviewed via candidacy or grant funded review

Minimum office processing time. Researcher response time additional.
Animal Ethics
Australian Code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes

- An animal is defined as “any live non-human vertebrate (that is, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, encompassing domestic animals, purpose-bred animals, livestock, wildlife) and cephalopods”

- Observational studies also require ethics approval
  
Animal Ethics Application Workflow

Application Submission

Scientific Advisory Review (Starting Jan 2020)

Animal Ethics Committee

Approval

3 R’s

- The replacement of animals with other methods
- The reduction in the number of animals used by good experimental design and use of statistics.
- The refinement of techniques used to reduce adverse impact.

New Scientific Advisory Committee Process from Jan 2020
Hazardous Materials & Equipment

- Radiological and Biological Hazards
- Compliance requirements
  Permits, approvals, licences etc.
- Infrastructure requirements
  PC2, radioisotope lab etc.
Radiation and Biosafety Application Workflow

Radiation Application submitted

Assessment of compliance requirements

Regulator Approval

Radiation Safety Officer/Committee

Up to 1 year

Biosafety Application submitted

Assessment of compliance requirements

Regulator Approval

Institutional Biosafety Committee

4 weeks
Research Integrity website & resources

Research ethics and safety

If your research involves humans, animals, the collection or use of confidential information, potentially dangerous equipment or substances, or research with other ethical implications, you must follow Curtin’s ethical and safety requirements as well as the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research on the National Health and Medical Research Council website.
Applying for project approval - InfoEd

- Apply for and manage your approvals from Curtin’s:
  Animal Ethics Committee, Human Research Ethics Committee, Institutional Biosafety Committee, Radiation Safety Committee

- Students can submit the application but cannot be Chief Investigators
  - When a Student creates an application, they must assign a Staff member as the Chief Investigator.
  - They must add themselves as an investigator on the form to see the application.
  - They can find the application by searching for the record number in ‘quick find’.

Links

- Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research

- National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (NHMRC)

- Curtin University’s Research Management Policy

- Curtin University’s Responsible Conduct of Research Policy

- Animal Welfare Act (WA) 2002

- Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes 8th ed
Thank you

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