

HEALTH+MEDICAL RESEARCH



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Amendments to the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research



Audience: Research Office/Researchers

The National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research serves as a comprehensive guideline for researchers conducting research with human participants, as well as for members of ethical review bodies, research governance professionals, and prospective research participants.

With a commitment to staying abreast of evolving ethical considerations, the National Statement adopts a dynamic approach by embracing a rolling review process. This ensures that the document remains current and responsive, as only the relevant sections are updated when necessary, as opposed to a complete overhaul every five years.

As part of the revisions of the 2023 National Statement, AHEC made some minor administrative changes to support the revisions to Chapter 2.1 and Section 5 of the National Statement. [These changes can be found here.](#)

On 1 January 2024, the 2007 National Statement will be replaced with the 2023 National Statement. After 1 January 2024, the 2007 National Statement will remain available for reference and for historical purposes on the [National Statement information webpage.](#)

Updated Educational Resource: Understanding Process Flows in REGIS

Audience: Research Office/Researchers



The eHealth REGIS team are continuously reviewing, creating and updating guidance and educational resources to better assist users with system processes and use.

The latest resource to be updated is the 'Understanding Process Flows in REGIS' document. This is a great educational resource that shows both Researchers and Research Offices how applications and post approval items flow through REGIS.

You will notice some changes in the post approval flows section which has been expanded to touch on the single processes for post approval activities such as amendments. This will provide users with a clearer understanding of what to expect upon submission, when more information is required and upon approval. Some sections are still under review but once completed, will be updated within this existing document.

[Click here to access the updated 'Understanding Process Flows in REGIS' document.](#)

Completing an Ethics Approval in REGIS

Audience: Research Office

We have received some recent feedback that Ethics application approval letters are showing a full list of approved documents that are not visible for Research Governance Offices in the system.

It is **CRITICAL** that Ethics Offices follow the correct steps for approving Ethics applications in the system, this allows the system to share visibility of the approved documents with related sites Research Governance Offices. When these approved documents are not visible for related sites RGOs, this causes delay in reviews and frustration.

Researchers should also not be asked to upload the Ethics approved documents when Ethics exists in REGIS, this is an unnecessary request for Researchers.

How do I approve an Ethics application in REGIS and ensure the approval and approved documents are visible/shared with related sites RGO's and Researchers in the external portal? There are two QRG's that describe how to approve an Ethics application available

- [Processing Approvals & Authorisation – Not Associated with Meetings \(Initial Application\)](#)
- [Managing HREC Meetings and Decisions](#)



The eHealth REGIS team will conduct a Lunch & Learn around this topic in the near future, Research Offices will be sent an invitation once organised.

Research Office Contribution

SESLHD - Re-introducing the Ethics and Governance team

The SESLHD Research Office would like to take this opportunity to re-introduce their Ethics and Governance team!

Marie Le Bechenec – Research Governance and Operations Manager

Fun fact: Favourite hobby is watching ASMR videos on cleaning. So satisfying!

Monique Macara – Research Ethics Manager

Fun fact: Has recently taken up pottery, is not very good at it, but is persisting. Contact Monique if you would like to commission a small, useless and unshapely bowl.

Caroline Cottet – Research Ethics and Governance Officer

Fun fact: Is French but cannot cook and does not like garlic!

Kate Sutherland – Research Ethics and Governance Officer

Fun fact: Is the proud owner of a mischief of thriving rats.

Nitisha Kulkarni – Research Ethics and Governance Officer

Fun fact: Was recently nominated for a SESLHD staff award!

Sophie Gates – Research Ethics and Governance Officer

Fun fact: Used to create art and play the drums but is now slightly less interesting than she used to be (nothing to do with working with REGIS)

Sonia Hakim – Research Ethics and Governance Officer

Fun fact: Currently on maternity leave!

Up next is ISLHD! We look forward to your contribution for Issue 14 - 1 August 2023

Researcher/Coordinator Contribution



[Simulation-free radiotherapy: A novel technique to expedite treatment](#)

Dr Vikneswary (Vicky) Batumalai is a Principal Research Scientist based at GenesisCare Australia. With over 15 years of experience in the field of radiation oncology research, Dr. Batumalai has become a respected authority in both academia and clinical practice and is driven by a passion to improve patient outcome.

Making research valuable to a consumer

This ground-breaking research focuses on a new way to make radiotherapy for prostate cancer patients more efficient. Prostate cancer is one of the most prevalent cancers affecting men worldwide, and

radiotherapy is a commonly used treatment modality. However, the conventional approach to radiotherapy treatment planning involves an additional appointment for a simulation-CT scan, which can be time-consuming and burdensome for patients. We can now use existing diagnostic scans (PSMA-PET/CT) to plan the radiotherapy treatment.

This means patients can bypass the inconvenience of extra travel and waiting time, have fewer visits to the clinic, and start their treatment sooner. Moreover, this innovative approach can be adapted to other types of cancer, benefiting a wide range of patients, and ultimately improving their overall treatment experience and outcomes.

Want more information? [Check out the simulation-free radiotherapy: A novel technique to expedite treatment poster here!](#)

Are you part of a research team that has created some great resources or worked through an issue or teamed up with your Research Office to streamline a process? We know this newsletter is going out far and wide AND we also know YOUR colleagues would love to hear what you've been doing. Feel free to send in a short blurb about what you're up to and we'll sing your success from the rooftops!

Upcoming events and dates

Audience: Research Office/Researcher



2023 Events and Dates

Researcher Training: The final training cycle for 2023 is scheduled for **September**. [Register your interest here.](#)

September: A preliminary date has been set for the forthcoming HREC Chairs Meeting, Friday 8 September. Further details to be provided closer to the date.

September: The forthcoming Ethics and Governance Bi-Annual Roundtable is scheduled for Friday 22 September. Further details and registration link to be provided closer to the date.

Previous Versions of REGU/REGIS Newsletter

Audience: Research Office/Researcher

All previous version of the fortnightly email are available from the REGIS website: <https://regis.health.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/regis-office-webinars/>

REGU/REGIS Newsletter: Inspiring other units within OHMR and LHDs since February 2021