

Human Research Ethics Committee

The UnitingCare Queensland Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) is responsible for ensuring the ethical acceptability of research conducted by external researchers, or by staff of any UnitingCare Queensland service, which involves human participants, human tissue or personally identifiable records, and for the provision of advice to UnitingCare Queensland on related matters. (For more information follow the link to [When should I seek ethics approval?](#))

The Committee is governed by the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007) in performing its responsibilities. Research undertaken within UnitingCare Queensland services (i.e. Blue Care, Lifeline Community Care, the UnitingCare Centre for Social Justice and some social research conducted within UnitingCare Health*) must receive some level of review, irrespective of whether another HREC has previously reviewed and approved the research.

Research undertaken within UnitingCare Queensland must be consistent with the organisation's strategic direction and be in keeping with areas of care and service delivery need. Further to this, the methodology of any project needs to be amenable to a service delivery context and be consistent with the National Statement (2007). For these reasons, UnitingCare Queensland believes it is important that the UnitingCare Queensland HREC reviews and approves all requests to undertake research.

The UnitingCare Queensland HREC recognises that ethical review can be a time consuming process for researchers and will endeavour to make the review process as efficient as possible. It is however advisable for researchers to commence the ethics review process as soon as possible to facilitate timely review.

* If you wish to apply to undertake clinical or medical research through UnitingCare Health, please send your application to: ethics@uhealth.com.au or telephone Lorraine Remphrey on: 07 3232 7500

Ethics applications - required forms

The following forms are relevant to researchers wishing to submit an application to the UnitingCare Queensland Human Research Ethics Committee: Conduct of Research HREC application form Research progress/completed form Application and meeting dates 2010 Ethics applications - required documents

The following documents should be referred to by researchers in completing an ethics application:

National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research

Values and Ethics: Guidelines for Ethical Conduct in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researcher

A Model Framework for Consumer and Community Participation in Health and Medical Research

When does Quality Assurance in Health Care Require Independent Ethical Review?

Further information can be obtained by emailing Patricia Patterson, the HREC Coordinator, on: HREC@ucareqld.com.au