

School Of Population Health

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THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

School of Population Health Ethics Review Committee

The School of Population Health Ethics Review Committee provides ethical review for all uncomplicated post-graduate student research undertaken within the School of Population Health, from Honours up to the PhD level. Research involving animals, or vulnerable groups or using tissue samples are dealt with by the Medical Research Ethics Committee at St Lucia.

Research that involves no human contact, and deals with de-identified data in the public domain does not require ethical approval. Evidence of approval to use data collected by government or other agencies may be necessary.

The committee aims to support student research, providing a formal structure for researchers to consider the ethical implications of their research. The committee comprises Peter Hill (chair), Lisa Fitzgerald and Chalapati Rao. The ethos of the committee is that it sees itself taking an enabling, rather than an obstructive role. It aims to provide the necessary support for researchers to undertake research that is ethically sound. Advice prior to submission can be requested directly from the chair, Peter Hill, who can be contacted directly by phone on 07 33655432 or by email at peter.hill@sph.uq.edu.au. He retains a close link with the Secretary to the Medical Research Ethics Committee at the Office of Research and Post-graduate Studies, checking with them cases that may need referral to the MREC. An annual report of decisions made by the SPH committee is forwarded to that office and the Research Committee of the School.

Applications for clearance and guidelines for their completion can be found on the University of Queensland website at <http://www.uq.edu.au/research/rrtd/human-ethics> and students are requested to forward one signed hard copy and one electronic copy, together with copies of their information and consent sheets, the research proposal and proposed research instruments, to:

Dr Peter Hill (Chair)
SPH Ethics Review Committee
International Health

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Expedited approval requires only one signed copy, together with the approvals provided by the collaborating institution.

Information or consent sheets should include an appropriately phrased version of the confirmation of approval:

This study has been cleared by the School of Population Health Research Ethics Committee of the University of Queensland in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's guidelines. You are welcome to discuss your participation in this study with project staff (contactable on). However, if you would like to speak to an officer of the University not involved in the study, you may contact the Chair of the Ethics Committee on 07 3365 5432.

The committee meets as required, but students should be aware that heavier loads towards the beginnings and ends of semesters may create delays. Our intention is to return clearances promptly. Checking that the forms are completed correctly and that comprehensive responses to relevant questions are provided in the application will reduce delays and the need to return the application for further information.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Hill', written in a cursive style.

Peter Hill
Associate Professor
Chair

25 July 2008